FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 MARCH 1986

Libya

Tripoli television and Voice of Greater Arab Homeland Radio broadcast the opening address by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at an international conference on imperialism, Zionism, and other issues in Tripoli 15 March. In his speech, Col al-Qadhdhafi called on the conference participants to undertake a "collective struggle" against "Imperialism and its filthy alliance" by establishing a "new internationalist organization" as an alternative to the United Nations. The Libyan leader claimed that smaller nations and "strugglers for freedom" have no confidence in the UN General Assembly, which has "no will of its own," and he charged that the UN Security Council is "a hindrance to the will of the Arab peoples." Al-Qadhdhafi also called on the conference participants to support Nicaragua and Cuba against U.S. "harsh threats" and "imperialism."

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian planes bombed an Iraqi military and economic center northwest of Qal'at Salih 18 March, inflicting "irreparable" damage on Iraqi forces, according to an Iranian military communique reported by IRNA. Earlier, Iranian ground and naval forces destroyed the Iraqi naval base at Umm Qasr and an Iraqi frigate in the Khawr 'Abdallah 17 March, according to another communique cited by IRNA. In a news conference reported by Tehran radio, the Iranian defense minister claimed that Iranian troops are positioned on three "important" roads in the Al-Faw-Basra-Umm Qasr area and that all Iraqi counterattacks in the area have been defeated.

Meanwhile, Iraqi planes attacked the Iranian refineries at Esfahan 18 March, according to an Iraqi military statement broadcast by Baghdad radio. Iraqi planes also raided a group of Iranian vehicles south of Ahvaz, an Iranian command center, and another "large maritime target" 17 March, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. In Manama, the *GULF DAILY NEWS* reported that a Cypriot supertanker was on fire after being hit with an Exocet missile in an Iraqi attack south of Bushehr. In an interview with Egypt's *AL-JUMHURIYAH, Iraqi Navy Commander 'Abd al-Hamid* 'Abdallah announced that Iraq is determined to blockade Khark Island and to destroy all ships that approach it. 'Abdallah also claimed that the Iraqi Navy is in full control of the northern section of the Gulf.

Syria

A mercenary hired by Iraq was responsible for the explosion of a booby-trapped truck near the northern entrance to Damascus 13 March, Damascus television reported, adding that security forces had arrested the man responsible for the bombing. In a Damascus television interview, the arrested man said he was a Lebanese truck driver and that an Iraqi intelligence officer instructed him on how to detonate the bomb, adding that he was unable to take the truck into the area of the intended target, an officers club in Syria.

French Hostages in Lebanon

'Umran Adham, an envoy of the French president, told Lebanon's *AL-NAHAR* in remarks reported by AFP that the French hostages could be released "in the next few days" if France allowed Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to deal with the situation. Adham told the paper that Ra'd had hampered the negotiations by making "ill-considered promises" to the kidnappers, AFP added. In another development, Damascus radio reported that Syria has played a "positive role" in the French hostages affair, adding that the country will continue to support efforts to achieve the hostages' release.

OPEC Affairs

OPEC ministers meeting in Geneva held a closed session 17 March in an effort to agree on a joint approach to oil prices and production, but "moderates" and "radicals" in the organization remained far apart on key issues, AFP reported. The Nigerian oil minister later told IRNA that OPEC is prepared to lower its daily oil production ceiling in order to "improve" the market.

Egypt

Cairo radio reported that PRC Presidnet Li Xiannian met privately with President Husni Mubarak. In a banquet speech reported by MENA, Mubarak praised PRC support for Egypt's policy in the Middle East, adding that Li's visit will further strengthen PRC-Egyptian friendly ties.

Libya-Chad

Chadian Government forces intercepted a patrol unit of "Libyan provocateurs and their mercenaries" Northeast of Koro Toro 17 March, according to a military communique reported by Ndjamena radio. Chadian troops pursued the unit back to its command post at Chicha, which was then "completely destroyed," the report added.

Sudan

Government forces withdrew from two garrisons 13-14 March after reinforcement forces were ambushed and dispersed, according to the clandestine radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA). The radio also claimed that 65 mutinous government troops were killed in a clash at Juba airport when they refused to travel to the "frontline." Juba airport was closed "indefinitely," the report added. Meanwhile, the defense minister denied reports that SPLA troops defeated government forces at Jonglei in a statement to *AL-SAHAFAH* reported by SUNA.

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'Arafat Addresses Islamic Constituent Council

GF171809 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Mecca, 17 Mar (SPA) — The third session of the constituent council of the Muslim World League was held at the headquarters of the Muslim World League in Mina, under the chairmanship of Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn 'Abdallah ibn Baz, chief of the administration of scientific research, counseling, and guidance and chairman of the council, and by the attendance of Dr 'Abdallah 'Umar Nasif, secretary general of the Muslim World League.

The session was also attended by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, who at the beginning of the session spoke on recent developments of the Palestinian cause.

He said Jerusalem and occupied Palestinne face conspiracies aimed at destroying the al-Aqsa Mosque and building the alleged temple on its debris.

He added that the al-Ibrahimi Mosque only permits Muslims to pray in parts of it at certain times decided by the Israeli occupationist authorities. In his address he also cast light on the sufferings of the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Mr 'Arafat warned against the dimensions of the conspiracy hatched by international Zionism and those standing behind it, which becomes clearer and is realized in the absence of Arab and Islamic solidarity. He also talked about the current situation on the Lebanese arena and warned against its dangers.

During its session the council discussed the decisions and instructions of the committees formed by the council during its current session. It reviewed the report of the political committee on the Iraq-Iran war and its developments in the arena to end the bloodshed. The committees formed by the council will hold its meetings later today to discuss a number of the session's agenda issues.

PLO Refutes Rabin's Claims of 'Alternative Leaders'

JN172037 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1649 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Talk by political editor]

[Text] Brothers: Zionist war minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said in a recent statement that what he termed Palestinian leaders in the area cannot be qualified spokesman in any negotiations. The reason as stated by Rabin is that the PLO, Jordan, and the Arab world will not permit them to be spokesmen. The war minister added that what he termed Arab terrorism will immediately liquidate any prominent personality who expresses willingness to hold a dialogue.

The first question raised by Rabin's statement is: Who are the prominent or nonprominent Palestinian personalities who expressed their willingness to hold a dialogue with him? Did the Zionist leadership indeed expect Palestinians to hold a dialogue with the occupation authorities when they are more aware than others of the occupation authorities' actions and objectives? If the Zionist leadership had expected that, it is now discovering through Rabin's own words that it had been naive in its expectations. It waited in vain. Its deception did not deceive anyone. In fact, nobody even bothered with it.

However, the Zionist war minister did not want to state the truth and say that his expectations were naive and that his deception was stupid. Rabin did not want to say that the Palestinian people enjoy a very high national consciousness and adhere to their established basic principles. They cannot be trapped by the enemy. Therefore, the Zionist war minister has fabricated these delusions to cover up his failure.

He fabricated the delusions about prominent Palestinian personalities who expressed a willingness to hold a dialogue with him. He also fabricated delusions about the PLO, Jordan, and the Arabs preventing those personalities from showing the willingness to hold a dialogue.

Rabin and others are captive to these delusions. He announces them in an attempt to influence others and even the Palestinian people themselves. However, all that will not shake the Palestinian people's self-confidence, either on the level of prominent or nonprominent personalities. Nobody will come forward from this people and offer his neck and destiny to his enemy. The Zionists will not find agent alternative leaders, not that the Palestinian people lack leaders, but because the sons of this people are pursuing a different course from that desired by Rabin. When they are steadfast in their land, they are leaders; when they carry a stone, a knife, or an explosive charge, they are leaders; when they stage demonstrations and raise the Palestinian flag, they are leaders; and when they declare confrontation and pursue the policy of liberation, they are leaders.

Rabin must prove that he is in control. But the enemy war minister knows that this is a problem without a solution.

Reportage on ICO Cooperation Committee Meeting

Seeks Increased Islamic Trade

TA111540 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1520 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] Ankara 11/3 (AA) — Islamic Conference Organization's Permanent Committee on Commercial and Economic Cooperation COMCEC's "group of experts" meeting started today in Istanbul in an effort to help boost trade among Islamic countries.

The meeting, to end on March 13, will review the outcomes of the first COMCEC meeting in November 1984 and appraise the reports prepared meanwhile.

Ministers from ICO member states are due to discuss the same issues at the 2d COMCEC meeting to be held under Turkish President Kenan Evren between March 14-16.

Vice Chairman of the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) Tansely Abdourrahman Bin Abdaljallal recalled today that trade volume of Islamic Nations among each other constitutes only 10 percent of their total foreign trade. In his inaugural speech, Abdaljallal said they "have gathered here to find a solution to this problem."

The COMCEC experts meeting is to continue behind closed doors.

Developments since the first meeting of COMCEC are seen as "slow but concrete steps" taken towards better cooperation among Islamic countries.

Turkey had in the first COMCEC meeting proposed cooperation within ICO to "harmonize" industrial and agricultural standards. Industry ministers of the ICO states had decided to set up a coordination committee towards this end. Turkish Institute of Standards (TSE) has also lapsed [as received] some major steps in this regard in its bilateral contacts with Islamic countries.

In another development, the Islamic Development Bank concluded a project for financing long term trade among member states. COMCEC experts are also to review a report on this project.

Ozal Addresses Economic Committee

TA141540 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1500 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Istanbul, 14 Mar (AA) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal said on Friday economic cooperation will pave the way for diffusing political tensions and enhancing ties of friendship.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the second session of the standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) of the ICO here, Ozal said he is convinced economic intergration of the ICO countries depends on the availability of the necessary infrastructure.

We must create a community easily accessible to all our citizens, Ozal said.

Ozal also said that elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers among ICO countries will be an important stimulus for the expansion of trade, and added that this would eventually lead to the establishment of a free trade zone.

He asserted that Muslim countries do not intend to isolate themselves from the world economy at large by fostering economic and commercial coperation among the ICO countries.

Our aim is to enter into international competition from a position of strength and thereby increase our ability to compete on better terms, he added. If agricultural and industrial potential of the Muslim world were put to use through increased trade, The turkish Premier argued, an "autonomous growth center" could be created.

Ozal, who is also the alternate chairman of the COMCEC, maintained that in the course of this development, "political conflicts now ravaging our region will gradually fade away."

"My government firmly believes that every concrete step towards economic cooperation will pave the way to diffusing political tensions and enhancing our ties of friendship and brotherhood."

Ozal said economic cooperation among nations brings into play forces of peace and mutual understanding.

Ozal also met before the inaugural ceremony the ICC Secretary General S.S. Pirzada at the hotel where the COMCEC meeting is to continue until Sunday, March 16.

Commercial Financing Approved

TA151900 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] The Islamic Conference Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation has approved a package of easy terms for long-term commercial financing. Islamic Development Bank Governor (Ahmad Muhammad 'Ali) held a news conference after the approval of the package saying the aim of this project is to increase the export possibilities of members and encourage mutual trade. He said the package includes a system that will support the Islamic countries' export of nontraditional goods to other countries. For the project to be implemented, the package must be approved by the governors of the central banks of Islamic countries, who will meet in Jordan next month. The committee determined the amount of the fund that will be established within the framework of this project as $300 million initially. Half of this amount will be supplied by the Islamic Development Bank and the other half by the countries that will take part in the project.

Meanwhile, certain ministers in Istanbul for the Standing Committee meetings, have been holding news conferences at the building where the conference is being held. Industry and Trade Minister Cahit Aral was replying to foreign journalists' questions today when he said that Turkey's efforts to join the EEC will not harm its relations with the Islamic countries. Replying to another question, Aral said that the infrastructure necessary for Turkey's full membership in the EEC has been established in Turkey, and now it is up to the Community to fulfill its obligations.

Speaking to reporters today, Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu said Turkey consitutes a bridge between the Islamic world and the West, adding: If Turkey has good relations with the Islamic countries, it becomes a separate source of power for the Western world.

The foreign minister pointed out that Turkey's foreign policy has been determined in terms of the country's interests. He said that this foreign policy has certain foundation stones, namely, the ties with NATO, Europe, and the Islamic countries.

The Islamic Conference Standing Committee, and the Food, Security, and Agricultural Development Ministers' Group will end their meetings in a joint session tomorrow.

Evren Urges Cooperation

TA161515 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1450 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Istanbul, 16/3 (AA) — Trade and agriculture ministers from the 46 nation-ICO member countries ended their meeting here today with an appeal from the Turkish president to strengthen their cooperation. President Kenan Evren, the chairman of the ICO's Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC] said today the Islamic world will increase its weight in the world economic scene to the extent it strengthens its cooperation.

Speaking at the closing session of the three-day COMCEC meeting at ministerial level, Evren said their efforts for economic cooperation had passed mere decisions and "concrete" developments are now taking place.

Tallking on the plans to launch a long-term financing scheme within the framework of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), Evren expressed hope that the scheme would contribute at the desired level.

The scheme was the only project Islamic ministers agreed at the meeting that it should be operational soon.

Credit guarantee facilities and the creation of a multilateral Islamic clearing union, also discussed by ministers here, were seen yet in their initial stages and more studies and work on them need to be done by the IDB.

Evren also urged ministers of the ICO countries to do more on cooperation among themselves in setting up transportation and communication facilities, food and agriculture and in providing to famine-stricken African countries more technical assistance along with food aid.

Pirzada, Ozal Speak at Closing

TA162100 Ankara Domstic Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Speaking at the closing session of the Islamic Conference Organization Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation and the Food and Agricultural Development Ministers' Group, Islamic Conference Secretary General Pirzada said that useful results were achieved at meetings at the expert and minister levels. He said certain decisions were reached with full appreciation of the difficulties, but with optimism, adding the delegates agreed to implement these decisions as soon as possible. Pirzada said this achievement reflects an important step in the implementation of the action plan toward strengthening economic cooperation among the member countries.

He called on the Islamic Development Bank Administrative Board to approve the easy terms of commercial financing adopted at the meetings. He expressed the hope that at its next meeting, the Standing Committee will agree on the regional export credits guarantee system and on the establishment of an Islamic clearing union.

Pirzada pointed out that the support extended to the Palestinians' struggle for their legitimate rights will further strengthen the solidarity among the Islamic countries.

The Islamic Conference secretary general also stressed that with the implementation of the measures adopted for increasing food and agricultural production, an important step will have been taken toward the Islamic countries' self-sufficiency.

Speaking at the meeting, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal said that the Islamic Countries must intensify their cooperation. He said: The Islamic countries must rely on their own strength, they must encourage each other and minimize the effect of the outside world on their development efforts.

Discussing the critical stage of the world economy today, Ozal said that the protectionist measures of the industrialized countries are creating difficulties for the Islamic countries' exports. He said that if the Islamic countries want to minimize the effect of these unfavorable conditions, they must unite all their forces. The Standing Committee has assumed an important duty in His respect, he stressed.

Ozal said that the Islamic countries' decisions to develop trade among themselves, and to work for a larger share of world trade, will help them reach their common aim in a shorter period of time. He expressed the belief that beneficial results will be achieved if the next Standing Committee meetings discuss financial issues and the transportation, communications, and energy sectors.

The prime minister stressed that the Islamic countries must assess their natural resources in accordance with present conditions and increase their cooperation. He added: Our countries are engaged in economic cooperation with other countries or country groups in their regions. However, this must not be considered as a factor that limits the cooperation among us, members of the Islamic world. We must determine the targets of Islamic cooperation in accordance with our own realities. Trade, the most important field, constitutes the first step of our cooperation.

Ozal pointed out that to develop trade, ways for using financial resources in other fields must be sought. He stressed that the ultimate goal in the field of trade is the establishment of a free trade zone encompassing the Islamic world. He also said that viable possibilities are necessary to overcome the difficulties in economic cooperation. Within this framework, Ozal added, places will be allotted to the Islamic Conference members in the free trade zone being established in Mersin.

Prime Minister Ozal said representatives of private enterprises must visit each other to pursue cooperation possibilities directly. He explained increasing trade, investment, and financing activities among the members will eventually lead to an economic union, adding: In this way, the force of our common interests will reach a level where they can eliminate political conflicts. It is very important for the Standing Committee of the Islamic Conference, which is the single organization that encompasses the entire Islamic world, to become institutionalized into a forum of cooperation. When that happens, the vacuum felt in this field will have been filled.

Speaking at a news conference after the meeting, Prime Minister Ozal said that it is important for the economic cooperation among the Islamic countries to spread to trade, agriculture, industry, transportation, communications, banking, energy, tourism, and labor. He recalled that efforts to develop a model of economic cooperation within the framework of the common historical, religious, and social values among the Islamic countries are new, adding: The persons who will actively carry out this cooperation must get to know each other, they must meet regularly and institutionalize their relations.

Pirzada on Turkey's Role

TA171917 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Pirzada has said that Turkey is pursuing a consistent and harmonious policy between the Western and Islamic worlds. In a statement to ANATOLIA AGENCY in Istanbul, Pirzada said that Turkey, which plays a stable role within the Islamic Conference, also has relations with the Western world. He said: Turkey's geographic position necessitates such relations.

Referring to the oppression of ethnic Turks in Bulgaria, Pirzada recalled that the ICO foreign ministers conference recently held in Fes decided to set up a contact group on the issue. He noted that the 3-person group, which will visit Turkey soon, will also go to Bulgaria in the event permission is granted.

Referring to the war between Iran and Iraq, Pirzada referred to these two countries as two brothers within the Islamic family and said that neither should be isolated from the Islamic world in a bid to put an end to the war.

PLO Command Claims Destruction of Haifa Bus Depot

JN171915 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1712 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] A spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following: Our heroic revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland are continuing to escalate armed operations against enemy personnel, vital and military installations, and targets throughout our occupied Palestinian territory. The following are the details of these operations:

1. One of our fighter groups managed to plant incendiary, explosive charges inside the Zionist central bus station in Haifa. The Palestinian charges exploded yesterday afternoon, completely destroying the station, burning and damaging a large number of buses, and killing or wounding a number of Zionist enemy personnel. Immediately afterward, a large force from the Zionist army and police was rushed to the scene of the operation, carried out an extensive search, and arrested a many Palestinian citizens on the pretext of involvement in the operation.

2. Our heroic revolutionaries used hand grenades and incendiary bombs to attack two Zionist military vehicles the day before yesterday. The first attack took place in the south of occupied Gaza Strip and the second on the Majdal Ashqelon road. The two vehicles were damaged and a number of Zionist soldiers sustained various injuries.

The Zionist occupation forces cordoned off the scenes of the two operations and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of involvement in the two operations. Our fighter groups withdrew from the scenes of the oeprations with complete success after carrying out their missions. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

Joint Forces Attack Israeli-Lahd Position

JN171924 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1712 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] The Palestinian-National Lebanese joint forces launched a machinegun and rocket attack yesterday evening against a joint military position of the Zionist occupation forces and agent militias north of Bint Jubayl in southern Lebanon. The position sustained grave material damage and a large number of Zionist soldiers and agent elements were either killed or wounded.

Further on Extraordinary Ministerial Session

'Intensive' Bargaining Reported

AU171225 Paris AFP in English 1218 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text]Geneva, March 17 (AFP) — Ministers of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) were poised for intensive bilateral bargaining here Monday on a joint approach to the oil market crisis, but "moderates" and "radicals" remained wide apart on the key issues.

The mood was tense as the ministers went into closed session to discuss the dramatic fall of crude oil prices and possible ways of steadying the market. They later adjourned their formal sessions until Tuesday to allow an expert panel to assess world supply and demand for crude oil in each quarter of 1986. They were to use the afternoon for bilateral contacts, according to OPEC Chairman Arturo Hernandez Grisanti.

Conference sources said most delegates would like to "dedramatize" the talks. "The feeling is that we have to do something, but everybody is sticking to their positions," a ministerial aide of one of the "radical" countries said.

He said Algeria, Iran and Libya considered OPEC's overall production level as the main stumbling block after Sunday's initial "observation round" and a series of bilateral consultations aimed at probing the ground for some understanding with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, the leading Gulf "moderates."

The three "hardliners' want OPEC to revert to its past policy of production restraint in order to bolser oil prices, while Saudi Arabia and Kuwait argue that the 13-nation organisation cannot turn the market around by themselves without some help from Britain and Norway, the North Sea producers.

Saudi Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, who strongly warned Britain Sunday that its refusal to cooperate with OPEC could spell "disaster" on the energy front a few years hence, issued a more muted warning to his OPEC partners that failure to restore a common front could send oil prices tumblin to eight dollars a barrel.

But conference sources said both he and his closest ally, Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah of Kuwait, signalled their readiness to talk with the radicals and other OPEC member, like Nigeria, that have still not opted in favour of either camp.

The need to work out a common platform for coping with the current oil market crisis was stressed in remarkably moderate terms in a message from Iran's president 'Ali Khamene'i read out to Sunday's opening session by Iranian oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh.

Iran has been among the most vocal opponents of Saudi policy inside OPEC, but Mr. Khamene'i insisted on the need to "preserve the unity" of OPEC and cited member countries' responsibility towards future genrations in forestalling a "disaster."

Yamani Said Pressuring UK

LD171849 Kuwait KUNA in English 1734 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 17 (KUNA) — Saudi Arabia's Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani had been the proposer of the idea to suspend today's full meeting of OPEC ministers, and to set up a gathering of experts, according to several different conference sources Monday afternoon.

The main purpose of his action was to deliberately prolong the Geneva conference, and in so doing put more pressure on the British Government to come to some form of agreement with OPEC, the sources, including some from the Gulf, said.

The timing had been deliberate, with an eye on the British budget due to be announced Tuesday, they suggested.

The delegation sources were not optimistic that any OPEC agreement on production levels and prices would come out of the present Geneva meeting.

They discounted reports circulated by a U.S. news agency that a major deal on revised quotas aimed at achieving a price range of between 15 and 20 dollars had virtually been agreed upon in Geneva.

Instead, the general feeling was that as no agreement was likely, the best policy would be to do everything possible to put pressure on Britain.

They suggested that the Gulf producers would be prepared to accept a weak price for one of two months more.

The notion of an imminent deal in Geneva appeared to have been discounted by Libyan Oil minister Fawzi al-Shakshuki, who on leaving the conference hotel told pressmen that there was "nothing on the table" at present.

Saudi Source Denies Divisions

GF171556 Doha QNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Texg] Geneva, 17 Mar (WAKH) — An official source in the Saudi delegation participating in the OPEC ministerial council extraordinary meeting in Geneva denied news reports that there are divisions over reaching a unanimous OPEC resolutions.

In a statement to QNA, the Saudi source said that the issues which were the cause of dispute yesterday have not been discussed yet. Some newspapers have said that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and other Arab Gulf countries are demanding the safeguarding of the current production level, while Algeria, Libya, and Iran are demanding a reduction in production.

Egypt: Price Increase Looms

AU171640 Paris AFP in English 1633 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Geneva, March 17 -- The price of crude oil could rise to 20 dollars within three months if producers undertake an effort to stabilize the international market, Egyptian Oil Minister 'abd al-hadi Qandil said here Monday.

Mr. Qandil, speaking as an observer at a ministerial meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), said he doubted that the market could absorb a price above 20 dollars.

Mr. Qandil said the participation of two other major non-OPEC exporters, North Sea producers Norway and Britain, is not indispensable to a common stabiliziation effort, a position that is not shared by Saudi Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani. He spoke of a new "realism" in Egypt, which has reduced output by 100,000 to 200,000 barrels a day in the last few months and is ready to cooperate with OPEC producers.

Iranian Minister Meets Counterparts

LD181011 Tehran IRNA in English 0816 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 18, IRNA — The Iranian oil minister, Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, currently attending the extraordinary meeting of OPEC here, Monday discussed oil market situation in meetings with oil ministers of Nigeria and Indonesia.

In his meetings with the Nigerian oil minister, Aqazadeh said that the decline in oil price is a plot against OPEC. The Nigerian oil minister stressed that in order to prevent oil price decline, production quota of OPEC members should be lowered.

In a separate meeting with the Indonesian oil minister, Professor Subroto, both sides discussed measures to encounter problems in the oil market.

The Iranian oil minister stressed that failure of the OPEC members to face the plots against them and the economic crisis created in the region will not be controlled. He added that through production control oil prices could be stabilized.

Meanwhile the Iranian oil minister Sunday held talks with the Saudi Arabian and United Arab Emirates oil ministers. Aqazadeh told Saudi oil minister Zaki Yamani that if OPEC failed to come up with a solution oil prices may be lowered further. The UAE oil minister, Mana Sa'id al-Utaybah also expressed concern over the current situation in international oil market.

Kuwait Denies Price War Call

LD180956 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0907 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, 18 Mar (KUNA) — In a statement published here today, Kuwaiti Minister of Oil and Industry Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Adhabi al-Sabah denied that he called for a price war against non-OPEC member oil-producing countries. Shaykh 'Ali was replying to a question by *AL-WATAN* newspaper on whether OPEC petroleum ministers have excluded Britain and Norway from any solution concerning the world petroleum situation.

The Kuwaiti minister told *AL-WATAN*: I have never said that we should go into a war against non-member countries. I have absolutely not said this at any stage. However, I said that the problem is that OPEC's share of the market is too small to divide it among us if the OPEC countries do not demonstrate willingness to sacrifice by reducing their shares.

Shaykh 'Ali, participating in an emergency meeting of the 13 OPEC member countries in Geneva, stressed that Kuwait favors the option of lowering the production ceiling: However, we have followed the policy that was chosen by the majority, that is, to defend OPEC's share of the market...[KUNA ellipsis] and now they want to change this direction...and, as in the past, we shall adhere to any collective decision that is taken regarding this.

In reply to a question on whether there is a tendency among OPEC countries to lower the production ceiling, Shaykh 'Ali said: It will be a catastrophe if there is no readiness to face the problem objectively.

The Kuwaiti minister reaffirmed that Kuwait, which produces around 950,000 barrels a day, is ready to do anything that is reasonable, "and although Kuwait's share was reduced at a higher rate when we reduced shares previously, we are ready for another reduction if the other countries demonstrate readiness for the same thing."

He reaffirmed Kuwait's readiness to contribute to solving the "big problems" which are facing OPEC now.

BAHRAIN

MAP: Amir Receives Moroccan Labor Minister

LD172209 Rabat MAP in French 1530 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Manama, 17 Mar (MAP) — Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al-Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, received Hassan Abbadi, Moroccan labor minister, Monday. He arrived in Manama from Kuwait early in the morning, in the framework of a tour of regional countries.

Paper Reports Shippers 'Bracing' for Iranian Attack

GF180535 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 18 Mar 86 p 1

[Excerpt] Gulf shippers were bracing themselves for a retaliatory strike by Iran today following the Iraqi missile attack on a Cypriot supertanker near Bushehr.

The 262,000-tonne *Achievement* was left on fire after being struck by an Exocet, 80 kms south of Bushehr.

Salvage tugs were last night racing to her assistance but were only expected alongside early today.

"Our estimated time of arrival is just after midnight," a Gulf-based salvage source said last night.

"At the moment we have no idea how badly damaged she is. We just know she has been hit."

A second Iraqi missile was fired and splashed into the sea only two meters from the salvage tug *Ribut*, which had been sent by the Singapore-based firm Weissmuller to assist fire-fighting operations.

Another shipping source said he now expected Iran to retaliate against neutral shipping in the Shah Allum Shoal area of the Qatari coast.

"Iran followed the four most recent Iraqi ship attacks with four of their own, so we expect them to follow suit," he said.

KUWAIT

Reportage on Visit by PDRY Foreign Minister Al-Dali

Delivers Message to Amir

LD181105 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1001 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 18 Mar (KUNA) — Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah today received a message from the South Yemeni President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, the contents of which were not disclosed. However, it is believed that the message, which was conveyed by Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, South Yemeni foreign minister, concerns the developments in South Yemen over the past 2 months which led to the overthrow of the former president, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

Received by Prime Minister

LD181202 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] In the prime minister's office today, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, prime minister and heir apparent, received Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the PDRY Political Bureau and foreign minister and the accompanying delegation. Kuwait's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, and the PDRY ambassador to Kuwait also attended the meeting.

Oil Price Collapse Threatens World Economy

GF171741 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Manama, March 17 (WAKH) — Kuwaiti daily *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* Monday warned that the collapse in world oil prices does not only affect OPEC members, but the whole world's economy and currencies.

The daily praised the solution proposed by Kuwait in Geneva where the members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) are currently holding a meeting, to cut production below its official OPEC quota on condition that all 13 members strictly adhere to it without exception.

The paper called on the members to abide by OPEC decisions on pricing and production without violation, such as dealing on the black market.

Hailing Kuwait's initiative, the paper said with such decisions, Kuwait has for the third time agreed to abide with this difficult option to protect prices and reach a solution for the worst oil crisis witnessed since the formation of the organization.

The OPEC members are not the only people to responsible, but the responsibility is to be shared by Britain and the United States, the paper charged. [sentence as received]

In conclusion, *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* affirmed the need to agree on the cut in production as proposed in Geneva yesterday in a bid to combat a 50 percent fall in prices since OPEC's last meeting in December.

OMAN

Petroleum Minister Discusses Oil Prices

GF160826 Muscat ONA in Arabic 1945 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Muscat, 15 Mar (ONA) — Sa'id Ahmad al-Shanfari, minister of petroleum and minerals, has affirmed the importance of achieving a reconciliation among all oil-producing countries in order to prevent a new collapse in oil prices.

In an interview published by the newspapers *'UMAN* and *AL-WATAN* today, the minister said that there can be no solution to the issue of settling prices without reducing production quotas. He said that the unanimous adoption of such a decision by OPEC and non-OPEC countries will definitely result in stability in the oil market.

The minister said that the stability of prices will guarantee the achievement of current revenues, in addition to safeguarding oil reserves. He said that whatever is agreed upon should be adhered to, since division and mutual accusations will only result in further deterioration of prices.

Sa'id Ahmad al-Shanfari said: The previous phase witnessed a move with our brethren in the GCC countries for joint consultation, coordination, and cooperation in order to stop this deterioration. We hope others will adopt the same spirit of cooperation and coordination.

He said that during his stay in Geneva he will hold talks with oil ministers of countries that are not members of OPEC and who are participating in the conference in order to coordinate and consult with them on the current pricing crisis.

In his interview the minister of petroleum said that one of the reasons for declining oil prices is the lack of the spirit of understanding and agreement among the OPEC countries during the past period. OPEC-member countries attempted to coordinate and specified the production share of each country, with an overall production of 16.5 million bpd. Unfortunately, some countries took advantage of this agreement and increased their production without adhering to the production quotas which were agreed upon.

The minister said it is expected that the world's reliance on Gulf countries' oil will increase from the current 40 percent to 60 or 70 percent. This means that the strategic significance of this region will continue or even increase. He added that numerous oil fields in the world outside the region will close down in the 1990's, which will consequently increase reliance on the region's oil.

Sa'id Ahmad al-Shanfari said that attempts to look for alternative energy resources will take a long time before those resources are available at low prices. The important thing is to achieve a reasonable price for a barrel of oil.

Sa'id Ahmad al-Shanfari expressed the hope that OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producing countries will coordinate among themselves, and that understanding and a spirit of cooperation will prevail among them since this will help stabilize prices and secure everyone's interests.

He pointed out that oil-producing countries are losing $ 74 billion annually as a result of the sharp drop in oil prices caused by their past disagreements.

He said that increasing production without agreement and according to the whim of every oil-producing country can never secure any gain; on the contrary, it contributes to increasing the losses.

In answer to a question on whether he expects oil prices to rise again in the event the oil-exporting countries reach an agreement in Geneva, he said that the present price is unreasonable, and if there is cooperation and agreement among OPEC and non-OPEC oil-exporting countries then it is possible that the price of the barrel may rise to $ 18, and to $ 20 at the beginning of the 1990's.

In conclusion, the minister of petroleum and minerals answered a question pertaining to whether Oman's plans for drilling new oil fields and developing present ones have been affected by the current collapse of oil prices. He said: The wise policy of His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, Oman's international reputation, and its geographical situation have largely alleviated the effect on Oman caused by the recent collapse of oil prices. He said: The oil which we currently produce is basically for the implementation of the goals of the third development plan which began at the start of 1986. Our production amounts to more than 500,000 bpd. If we desire to produce three times as much we will find a market for it. We do not have any marketing problems. However, our policy is to contribute as much as we can to achieve a stability of prices so that numerous other countries will not be affected. We have not stopped our search for new oil discoveries or the development of the present fields, since we are in a state of development which makes it necessary for us to proceed with all our plans in this sphere.

PDRY

UAE Paper: Road Opens Between North, South Yemen

GF181134 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 17 Mar 86 p 3

[Excerpt] Aden — The road between the cities of both the PDRY and the YAR was opened yesterday for the first time since last January. The first group of passengers left Aden for Ta'izz using the 160-kilometer road which links both parts of Yemen.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Chairs Cabinet Session 17 March

GF171744 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1715 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 17 Mar (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz chaired the Cabinet session this afternoon.

Following the session Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir made a statement to SPA. He said: His majesty the king reviewed with the Cabinet the latest developments of international and Arab political and economic events. His majesty also briefed the Cabinet on the course of the current negotiations taking place in the meetings held by OPEC in Geneva according to the report given to his majesty by Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, from the headquarters of the meeting. His majesty affirmed the keenness of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to continue cooperation with the member countries of the organization, which ensures respect for its decisions.

His excellency said: The Cabinet then resumed the study of the financial regulations and measures, which were decided for the country to proceed on during the period of extending the budget, which ensures better proceeding of matters in all sectors.

Official Denies Currency Devaluation 'Rumors'

GF171955 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] In reply to an SPA correspondent's question on rumors about the intention to decrease the value of the Saudi riyal, the governor of the Arab-Saudi monetary establishment affirmed that this is unfounded. In reply to a question on rumors about a shortage of foreign currencies at banks, his excellency said that this is not true and that the foreign currencies are found in abundance in the banks as usual.

Further on PDRY Foreign Minister in Riyadh

Denies Assassination Attempt on Al-'Attas

GF181119 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 17 Mar 86 p 3

[Text] Riyadh — PDRY Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali has denied reports that there has been an attempt to assassinate Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council.

In a statement to *AL-ITTIHAD*, Al-Dali stated that such rumors are baseless. He noted that he had contacted Chairman al-'Attas from Riyadh 2 nights ago.

Leaves Riyadh

GF171555 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali left Riyadh this afternoon after a 3-day visit to the Kingdom.

He was seen off at the King Khalid International Airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; Ambassador 'Isa al-Nuwaysir; chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; Muwaffaq al-Dulayfan, Saudi ambassador in Aden; and Muhammad ibn Sahl, PDRY ambassador to the Kingdom.

UAE Paper Reports Oil Minister's Interview

GF161619 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 16 Mar 86 pp 1, 7

[Report on interview with Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi petroleum and mineral affairs minister, by Brook Shepherd, deputy chief editor of *THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH* newspaper in Geneva — published by *AL-ITTIHAD* in agreement with the Gulf Center for Strategic Studies in London — date not given]

[Excerpts] Regarding the effects of the oil crisis on the OPEC member states Ahmad Zaki Yamani said: We are now facing a critical situation. You can easily imagine that. Political disturbances may erupt due to the financial collapses. On the future of oil, Yamani said: We have to continue digging and exploring, but this requires money. Otherwise, we will find ourselves running short of oil. I tell you that you should invest with oil and not produce oil at any price whatsoever.

On the eve of the emergency OPEC meeting in Geneva the Saudi petroleum minister warned that if Britain does not cooperate to control oil prices, the crisis — in which Britain has the greatest responsibility — will definitely take place. Despite the negative reactions still coming from the British Government the Saudi minister made a strong appeal to Britain, urging it to stop playing the role of a watcher and to take care of its national interests and to participate in the efforts he is leading for instituting order in the chaotic oil markets.

Answering a question on what he means by the coming crisis, the Saudi minister said: What I mean is simply the future. The oil possessed by the world now is enough for a few decades, or less in the case of Britain. We should all continue digging and exploring and seek alternative resources. This requires money. We are in need of revenue. Otherwise, we will find ourselves without oil. The two crises which occured in 1973 and 1979 were political and we could surmount them because we had the resources, but now we are confronted with an absolute energy crisis. We are quickly wasting these resources. Some U.S. oil fields are being closed, thus causing a loss of 1.8 million barrels per day. These fields are lost forever. The same thing also applies to some fields in Canada. Oil production in the North Sea began to decrease by 20 percent per year. Some oil fields in Texas which are larger are being closed. According to the current oil prices, which decreased by more than one-half during the past few months, some minor companies in Britain will have to reconsider their situation by the end of this summer. Therefore, you British have to invest in oil and not to produce oil at any price whatsoever. I also say to you that if you do not take this decision, nature will take it on your behalf. When asked if there were factors other than the drying up of oil and nature the Saudi minister said: Certainly. Some OPEC countries are now facing a critical situation. I will not mention names, but you can deduce that and see political disturbances due to the financial collapse resulting from this stagnation and from the sudden decline in oil prices. Perhaps the only way to surmount and avoid this is for oil-producing countries outside OPEC, foremost of which are Britain and Norway, to cooperate to control prices. These two countries will not attend the Geneva meeting, but I will not lose hope in holding talks after that, perhaps in London.

The Saudi minister answered a question on whether it was correct that some countries suggested a plan to completely stop oil production for a period of 4 weeks to force an increase in international oil prices, and his opinion on this. The Saudi minister confirmed the idea, but he made no mention of the countries behind this plan. He said: What is the use of this? It is correct that the prices may increase to $30 per barrel for a short period, but they will again decrease to $10, for example, after that. It is not practical to ask the weak producers to join a plan for stopping oil production for a long period. We should not forget that we in Saudi Arabia, regardless of the revenues, depend on our energy production to maintain the continuation of our vital projects such as our huge program for water desalination. We have actually been harmed by imposing restrictions on ourselves for maintaining fixed international prices. For this reason, we were forced to postpone our next budget for 5 months. How can we approve the budget when we do not know what the oil prices will be this week or that. Oil prices may decrease to $8 per barrel.

I am not saying that this will definitely happen, but that it is likely to.

Spokesman Says 'No Truth' to Interview

LD172313 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2210 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Riyadh 17 Mar (SPA) — "There is no truth whatsoever in what *THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH* published Sunday morning [16 March], attributed to his excellency the minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, Ahmad Zaki Yamani, nor in the comments that followed in both the *DAILY EXPRESS* and the *FINANCIAL TIMES* in their issues this morning, Monday."

This was stated by an official spokesman in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to SPA. The source added that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has been trying its utmost to unite OPEC and has been working, using all amicable methods, to maintain the ceiling that was fixed at the previous session.

Therefore, it believes that the ideal solution for settling the differences between OPEC member-states is in the conviction of all for the need to stop at the ceilings decided by the organization, according to which the quotas had been alloted to OPEC member-states.

The source said that if the members stuck to the resolutions of the organization as per their latest agreement, there would not have been a conflict in views inside the organization.

Therefore, the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia hopes that it will always be in accord with the OPEC member-states, because the Kingdom does not harbor any rancor toward anyone — it works only in the interest of everyone.

Consequently, the Kingdom still looks forward with great hope to the cooperation of the oil-producing states outside the organization and to their understanding of the real facts.

The official spokesman concluded his statement, saying that when the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia wants to announce a decision or a specific view it would come via its official information media.

UAE

Zayid Sends Messages to Iranian, Somali Presidents

GF181023 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] His Excellency President Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has sent a written message to His Excellency Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i pertaining to bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest. His excellency the president also sent a written message to Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre pertaining to bilateral cooperation and current Arab issues.

The two messages were sent through the diplomatic channels in response to two similar messages his highness received recently from the two presidents.

Petroleum Minister on Need To Stabilize Oil Prices

GF161257 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources, has stated that the UAE is willing to participate in any OPEC efforts to restore stability to the international oil market and resolve OPEC's problems.

In statements to *AL-ITTIHAD* published today, he said that the major challenge which confronts OPEC is to make some members agree to reduce production.

He pointed out that the UAE, alongside oil-producing countries in the Arabian Gulf, welcomes any reduction carried out by non-OPEC oil-producing countries in order to absorb the present glut in the oil market.

In answer to a question on whether OPEC will abandon its strategy to increase its share of the market, he said: We are increasing our share at present and will continue to do so in our own way.

He expressed regret that Britain and Norway did not participate in OPEC's efforts to stabilize prices.

He said: We understand the economic and political circumstances of some countries. However, we hope that they will one day cooperate with us in their own way.

Dr al-'Utaybah gave the first indication that the OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producing countries may achieve an agreement on commitment to some sort of restraint in production in order to stabilize prices.

Mubarak, Li Xiannian Deliver Banquet Speeches

NC172139 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1815 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 17 Mar (MENA) — President and Mrs Mubarak hosted a dinner banquet at the Al-Qubbah Palace this evening in honor of PRC President Li Xiannian, his wife, and the delegation accompanying him. The Egyptian officials attending were People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi, Consultative Council Speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, the deputies' prime minister, and the ministers.

The Egyptian and Chinese leaders exchanged speeches. In his speech, President Mubarak lauded the PRC's support for the Egyptian people's struggle to attain their objectives and the PRC's sound policy to eliminate the dangers menacing the Middle East region, to consolidate security and stability in this region, and to enable the fraternal Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights, foremost being their right to self-determination.

President Mubarak strongly praised the PRC stand and its initiatives in support of the just struggle of the Arab and African peoples to achieve political, economic, and cultural independence, to liquidate the vestiges of foreign monopoly and hegemony, and to struggle for improved socioeconomic conditions, under the appropriate regional and international circumstances.

President Mubarak noted the PRC support for the Lebanese people's endeavors to bring about the evacuation of foreign troops and regain their national and regional unity. He also praised the PRC rejection of the ongoing war between Iraq and Iran and the PRC call for resolving all existing differences through negotiations.

Responding to Mubarak's speech, the PRC president said that Israel is completely responsible for the years of disturbances in the Middle East. He noted that the Israeli authorities' aggressive and expansionist policy has obstructed the solutions in the Middle East.

The PRC president reiterated the strong support of the PRC people and government for the Arab and Palestinian peoples in their just struggle to regain their usurped land and national rights.

Continuing, the PRC president declared his country's support for the convening of an international conference under UN auspices, to be attended by all parties concerned to discuss the settlement of the Middle East problem. He affirmed that the Palestinian issue is at the core of this problem.

The PRC president noted that peace will not be established in the Middle East if the Palestinian problem is not solved in a just and reasonable manner, and if Israel does not withdraw from the occupied Arab lands and does not recognize the national rights of the Palestinian people.

Touching on the relations between the two superpowers, the PRC president welcomed the restoration of dialogue between the United States and the Soviet Union and the resumption of their disarmament negotiations.

The following is the text of the speech that President Husni Mubarak delivered at the dinner banquet:

Dear friend Li Xiannian, Mrs Li Xiannian, dear friends, from the land of venerable China in the glorious Far East, you come to the Arab Republic of Egypt, where continents and cultures meet and nations and peoples join together on the path of development and progress. Our people receive you with complete pride, affection, and love as true friends, sincere, honorable brothers, and faithful comrades in the struggle, who have always been true to your promises, adhered to principles, upheld what is right, and been committed to duty. In this, you have set an example to the nations that are working for a better world, in which peace reigns, in which justice and equality are embodied, and in which states both large and small enjoy their rights, pursue their interests, and preserve their dignity.

We welcome you, dear friend, as a representative of a great people, who have contributed much to the development of the human civilization and to the achievement of glory and progress on this planet, and who have presented to the world colossal achievements that are not confined to the tangible but extend to what is more fundamental and lasting. These noble achievements are the spiritual, intellectual, and philosophical concepts that elevate individuals and societies to higher levels, free them from worldly ambitions, and which give meaning to human life. But many nations and peoples have not yet reached these levels.

It is a historical fact that, since the dawn of history, the concerns and goals of the Egyptian people have been similar to those of the Chinese. Therefore, the two civilizations proceeded along the same cultural course, despite the fact that they are located far apart. Just as the old Egyptians had mastered the secrets of agriculture, the smelting of minerals, writing, the idea of dividing work, the techniques of building, and the sciences of engineering and astronomy, we find that your great predecessors had achieved similar feats. In the 16th century B.C., during the reign of the Ming Dynasty, Chinese feats included writing, agriculture, irrigation, spinning and weaving, the smelting of minerals, and delicate handicraft. The two peoples have been in contact throughout history. There is a firm conviction that the Chinese and Egyptian civilizations that emerged in both the Far and Near East constitute two parts of the same development process, with the identical views, goals, and objectives.

Dear friend, you had the opportunity to visit Alexandria during the past few days. This is reminiscent of the trips that your predecessors made to this city in the 1st century, they named the city (Woo Sinti Asan) and told their compatriots of the culture and civilization they had seen there. In a similar way, Egyptians have been going to your great country for centuries. They acquired knowledge and wisdom from it, and also brought commodities and handicrafts. Egyptian archeologists have uncovered many pieces of Chinese pottery under the city of Al-Fustat. They believe that these were brought to Egypt during the reign of Ibn Tulun at the end of the 9th century. Some Egyptians have settled in China, choosing it for themselves and their descendents.

If we view contemporary history, we find that the strong relations between the two countries and peoples were inevitable because of their substantial similarities and mutual attraction. It was natural that Egypt was the first Arab and African country to recognize the PRC, to exchange diplomatic relations with it, and to support its right to a prominent international role, which includes affecting world affairs. In a few weeks, we will together celebrate the 30th anniversary of this great event.

In a similar way, we find that the PRC was among the leading forces that supported the Egyptian people in their fight to liberate their territories and to defend their rights, sanctities, and independence. The noble Chinese people were a faithful ally in war and in peace. The PRC was among the first to understand the nature of the struggle of the Egyptian people, the nobility of its aims, and its correct policy to ward off the dangers menacing the Middle East, to consolidate security and stability in the region, and to enable the fraternal Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights, foremost of which is the right to self-determination and to establish a state on their territories. Under all conditions, the PRC was the first to support the just struggle of the Arab and African peoples to achieve political, economic, and cultural independence, to liquidate the vestiges of exploitation and foreign hegemony, and to bolster their capacity to battle for economic and social development, under suitable regional and international circumstances. From this premise, stems your support for the fraternal Lebanese people's endeavors to bring about the evacuation of foreign troops from their land, to regain national and regional unity, and to exercise sovereignty and independence.

From this also, stems your rejection of the ongoing war between Iran and Iraq, your appeal to stop this destructive war, and your call for the parties to resolve all their differences through negotiations. Thus, you hope to protect the interests of the two neighboring peoples and preserve the unity of the Third World countries, in the face of dangers and challenges.

Friends, I was happy to visit the PRC and to make the acquaintance of its great leaders and to learn of the achievements of its noble people. We strengthened bilateral cooperation in the various fields during the visit I paid to Beijing in April 1983. Arriving with a sincere desire to strengthen the friendship and cooperation between our two countries and noble peoples, I received positive responses from friends Deng Xiaoping, chairman of the Central Military Commission; Zhao Ziyang, State Council president and premier; Hu Yaobang, general secretary of the Communist Party; and Peng Zhen, chairman of the Chinese National People's Congress. The talks we have started today with the great guest of Egypt, President Li Xiannian, will add considerably to our efforts to strengthen the ties of affection and to increase the sharing of common experiences and exchange of expertise.

Permit me, brothers and sisters, to ask you to stand, as a sign of respect for dear friend President Li Xiannian, his wife, the friends from the PRC who are present, the great Chinese people, and the firm friendship between the Egyptians and Chinese. God's peace and mercy be with you.

The following is the text of the speech that Chinese President Li Xiannian delivered during the dinner banquet, in reply to President Husni Mubarak's speech:

His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, Mrs Mubarak, ladies and gentlemen, it is a great honor for me to come to friendly Egypt on an official visit, in response to a kind invitation from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. As soon as our feet touched your good land, the Egyptian Government and people overwhelmed us with their generous hospitality and kind reception. This made us feel at home and as if we were among our relations. This evening, His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, an old friend of the Chinese people, held a dinner banquet in our honor and delivered a very warm speech in which he expressed the friendship and fraternity of the Egyptian people for the Chinese people. On behalf of my colleagues and in my own name and in that of my wife, it pleases me to extent to his excellency the president and his wife, profound thanks and gratitude. I also seize this opportunity to convey the Chinese people's kind greetings and profound respect to the Egyptian people.

Egypt is a venerable, civilized state, with a long history and magnificent culture. Throughout history, the diligent and courageous Egyptian people have contributed distinctively to mankind's civilization and progress. At present, the Egyptian people are exerting persistent efforts to build their country and preserve world peace. The Chinese people are extremely happy for the Egyptian people's achievements in these fields.

For many years, turmoil and anarchy have dominated the Middle East, capturing the attention of the peoples of various countries in the world. By adhering to their aggressive and expansionist policy for a long time, the Israeli authorities have not permitted the Middle East problem to be resolved. The two superpowers' conflict in this region has further complicated matters. The Arab states and the Palestinian people have waged heroic struggles for over 30 years to regain their usurped territories and restore their national rights. This action has added pages filled with excitement to the annals of the Arab nations' resistance to aggression.

The Chinese Government and people support unwaveringly the various Arab peoples and the Palestinian people in their just struggle to regain their usurped territories and restore their national rights. The Chinese Government and people also support the convening of an international conference under UN auspices, to be attended by all the parties concerned to discuss a settlement of the Middle East problem.

The Palestinian issue is the crux of the Middle East problem. Peace in the Middle East region will not be established unless the Palestinian problem is solved in a just and reasonable manner, and unless Israel withdraws from the occupied Arab soil and recognizes the national rights of the Palestinian people. The Israeli authorities must conform to the movement of history, give up aggressive and expansionist policy, and act in a practical manner, so that peaceful coexistence can be achieved between the two nations.

The solution of the Middle East problem depends first and foremost on the solidarity and struggle of the Arab and Palestinian peoples. Although the Arab countries and the PLO are in different situations and use various tactics in their struggle, they have a common, historical mission. Each is making efforts to achieve the shared, lofty, and patriotic objectives.

We hope, or rather, we are confident that if these efforts continue among the Arab countries, the PLO, and the Palestinians to find common grounds, to disregard minor differences, to consolidate their solidarity and cooperation, and to gain the broadest international sympathy and support, their just struggles will inevitably and definitely triumph.

The peoples of the various countries of the world loudly demand a relaxation of the tense international situation. These peoples are actively working for world peace. The United Nations named 1986 the year of world peace.

We welcome the resumption of dialogue and disarmament negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union. We hope that they will reach agreements that grant the peoples' desires.

We believe that the forces working for peace are currently triumphing over those working for war. At this time, the establishment of lasting world peace is possible, if all the forces aiming for peace join together and persist in their struggle. The Chinese people are ready to do all they can, along with all countries and the peace-loving people in the world to bring about this brilliant future.

His excellency the president, Mrs Mubarak, traditional ties of friendship bind the PRC and Egypt and their peoples. Egypt was the first Arab country to establish diplomatic relations with New China. The late President Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir and late Prime Minister Zhou En-Lai with far-sightedness and sound judgements, which are the features of great politicians, laid the cornerstone of the friendship and cooperation. This has given the traditional friendship between the two peoples a brilliance over the past 30 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between PRC and Egypt.

Despite the many changes in the world, the friendship between our two countries and two peoples has withstood the test of time and has been further strengthened through our common struggle. The two nations are cooperating closely in supporting the national liberation movements, in working together to establish world peace, and in assisting each other in developing their national economies and elevating their peoples' standard of living.

It is worth noting that His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has visited the PRC three times without it being any problem. This was a significant contribution to the development of Chinese-Egyptian relations. I hope that my visit will further consolidate the friendship and cooperation, which are based on mutual respect and confidence. We hope that our relations, which have scope for broad development, will contribute further to world peace.

May I propose a toast to the great friendship between the Chinese and Egyptian peoples. I wish the Arab Republic of Egypt progress and prosperity and its people happiness. May I also propose a toast to the health of His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, Mrs Mubarak, and the friends who are present.

Mubarak, Li To Resume Talks

NC171527 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and PRC President Li Xiannian will resume their talks tomorrow, Tuesday, at the Republican Palace in Al-Qubbah. They will continue to discuss those issues on which they conferred during today's 75-minute session. The two presidents held a private meeting immediately after the arrival of the PRC president in Cairo on an official 4-day visit to Egypt.

Lutfi Receives Message From Pakistani Counterpart

NC171423 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1355 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 17 Mar (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi has received a message from his Pakistani counterpart, Muhammad Khan, on ways of strengthening Egyptian-Pakistani cooperation in all fields. The message was delivered by Iqbal Ahmad Kham, Pakistan's visiting minister of justice and parliamentary affairs, during his meeting today with Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi.

Talks during the session dealt with the importance of the continued enhancement of bilateral relations in the fields of economics, culture, and religion. Identical views were expressed regarding the need to reach a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem more quickly, to stop the murderous war between Iraq and Iran and to start peace talks. The prime minister stressed Egypt's desire to strengthen its close ties with Pakistan.

'Abd al-Majid Cited on Threat to Gulf

NC171810 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1645 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] In Cairo, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has stated that his country is doing all it can to work with the parties concerned to give momentum to the Middle East peace process and is urging certain parties to show flexibility, so that peaceful settlement may be reached. 'Abd al-Majid said that the dispute over UN Resolution 242 can be settled if the parties involved show flexibility, in order to achieve a just and comprehensive peace. Replying to a question, 'Abd al-Majid noted that Egypt cannot stand idle, while the Gulf states are threatened, following the Iranian advance in southern Iraq. Egypt bears its full responsibility on national Arab security.

Mubarak, Government Criticized for Riots, Unrest

Opposition Blames Government

PM171427 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 12 Mar 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Interpellation at the People's Assembly Requests Cabinet Resignation"]

[Text] The parliamentary opposition has stuck to its position and rejected President Mubarak's appeal to the assembly not to debate the 25 and 26 February incident. Deputy Ahmad Taha questioned the prime minister on the incidents, which he described as a reflection of the bad economic and social conditions in the country. He held the government responsible for the deterioration because it followed the instructions of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

In his interpellation, the assembly member stressed that the recent incidents meant that the government's general policy has failed and underscored the need for new policies and for a new government.

Mubarak Speech Criticized

PM171639 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 12 Mar 86 pp 1, 8

[Editorial: "The Challenge"]

[Text] The president's speech last Saturady gives rise to many questions and observations. Some of them are related to great expectations, in view of the way in which the president handled the 25 and 26 February incidents, and media's concentration on the importance of the speech, and the announcement of a special Cabinet meeting attended by the president directly before the speech. Many of these questions and observations, however, have to do with the seriousness and significance of what happened and what was more than a mere mutiny in one of the sensitive institutions of power.

The first, and certainly most important, observation is that the real causes of the economic, social, and political crisis in Egyptian society — of which the recent incidents were only a symptom — have been overlooked. This is clear in many respects, such as:

1. The speech ignored an issue that has been pressing for the past 10 years, ever since the open-door policy was introduced in Egypt, namely the issue of social justice. That cannot be attributed to coincidence or to a need for in-depth study. The regime obviously lacks a clear and specific social vision, and that ultimately makes it a captive of the current social situation based on a massive income gap, with provocative accumulation of wealth on the one hand and poverty and hardship on the other.

2. Strangely, the speech said nothing about the issue of wages and prices, which is linked to the question of social justice and to the people's livelihood and mounting day to day worries.

3. Despite full awareness and recognition of the economic crisis and despite identification of some of its symptoms, there is an unwillingness to tackle its main causes and, consequently, a failure to introduce sound remedies that should not be confined to appeals to Egyptians working abroad to increase their money transfers to Egypt or appeals to the rich not to spend their summer holidays abroad and to save foreign currency.

4. The importance of expanding the channels of expression and opening the doors of organized activity to all forces, classes, and social groups to ensure that political and social struggle is conducted peacefully and to avoid violence was disregarded. That disregard was most evident in relation to one of the most basic human rights, which is the right to stage peaceful strikes, especially in the case of the working class. To abolish that right and make it a crime means turning it into a national political issue at a time when the circumstances necessitate the opposite.

These observations and indications mean that the regime still insists on its method of handling the crisis and on not introducing any real social, economic, or political changes or, in other words, that it insists on maintaining the present state of affairs on the pretext of stability, thus ignoring the issue of change that has been strongly raised since 1981 and which has become extremely important following the 25 and 26 February incidents.

The nationalist forces, parties, and figures — wherever they may be — which believe in the need for and importance of change, have no alternative in their endeavor to compel the regime to change its policies and respond to the masses' urgent calls for change, but to quickly achieve a broad national agreement on an urgent program for tackling the economic, social, and political dimensions of the crisis.

That is the challenge facing us in the coming days and we have no option but to accept the challenge and accomplish the mission.

Editor Voices Complaint

NC151310 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] The editor-in-chief of the Egyptian weekly *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* today criticized the Egyptian State Security Service, accusing it of turning from an organ assigned to protect the security of the state and the public, into one that terrifies honest people, paralyzes their movement, and limits their tasks.

Ibrahim Sa'dah described those assigned to gather information for this service as deviationist, corrupt, and not to be trusted. It is worth mentioning that this criticism comes 3 weeks after the mutiny of the Central Security conscripts.

NPUG Condemns Israel's Participation in Cairo Fair

PM180951 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 12 Mar 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "The Arabs Boycott and the NPUG Condemns Israel's Participation in the Cairo Fair"]

[Text] An NPUG official spokesman has condemned Israel's participation in the Cairo international fair as being a perpetuation of the Camp David policy. The spokesman reaffirmed the NPUG's complete rejection of any attempt to normalize relations with the Zionist enemy against a background of continued aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian people and of Israeli defiance of internaitonal law, because that would mean condoning or overlooking Israel's policy.

Because of Israel's participation all the Arab states, with the exception of Sudan, have boycotted the fair. The chairman of the board of the fairs and exhibitions authority told *AL-AHALI* that Israel has been unable to conclude any commercial deals through its pavilion at the fair despite its continuous attempts to do so since it participated for the first time in 1981. He added: But there are risks in not allowing Israel to participate officially because the normalization process is linked to the Camp David treaty.

For the first time in 8 years the Soviet Union is participating in the fair along with nine other socialist states.

Interior Official Denies Shooting in Cairo Suburb

NC171538 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpts] A responsible source in the Interior Ministry has announced that two political prisoners made an attempt to escape from Turah Prison at dawn today. This source stressed that news agency reports of shots being fired early this morning for 30 minutes in the Al-Ma'adi suburb, and of two Army helicopters flying over the area, were not true.

Senior Information Official Starts European Tour

NC171348 Cairo MENA in English 1330 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 17 Mar (MENA) — Chairman of the Information Authority Dr Mamduh al-Biltaji left here today for London on the first leg of a tour comprising West Germany, France, and Britain. The Egyptian official will meet there with editors-in-chief of a group of papers, news agencies and television networks. Dr. al-Biltaji said that the general cadence of the international news media was positive and understanding, adding that he would also try to correct some wrong concepts.

PLO's Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Baghdad 17 March

JN191917 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1858 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Mar (INA) — Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive committee chairman, arrived in Baghdad at noon today. 'Arafat will hold talks with Iraqi officials on the latest developments in the region and the Palestinian cause.

Received by Tariq 'Aziz

JN171959 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1940 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Mar (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat here tonight. They reviewed developments in the Iranian aggression on Iraq. 'Aziz briefed 'Arafat on Iraq's high preparedness and mounting ability [word indistinct] to crush the Iranian invaders. [Words indistinct] Iraq's firm, principled stance toward the Palestinian cause and its full support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Navy Commander on Blocking of Khark Island

PM171309 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 13 Mar 86 pp 1, 4

[Jamal Kamil report: "Iraqi Navy Commander Tells *AL-JUMHURIYAH*: We Will Destroy All Ships at Khark Island"]

[Text] Iraqi Navy Commander Staff Rear Admiral 'Abd al-Hamid 'Abdallah has stated that Iraq is determined to blockade Khark Island and destroy all ships entering or leaving it regardless of cost and consequences. This, he said, is naturally Iraq's right, because oil is the main weapon used by Iran to ensure continuation of the fighting.

In an exclusive interview with *AL-JUMHURIYAH*, he said that the Iraqi Navy is in full control of the northern section of the Arab Gulf and of 150km of Iraqi and Iranian coastline. He challenged the Iranian Navy to prove its presence anywhere in the northern part of the Arab Gulf. The Iranian Navy, he added, is 1,000km from Al-Faw and Ra's al-Bishah.

He revealed that the Iraqi Navy has new weapons and missiles in its possession which it has not used and that it has reserves massive enough to keep the battles raging for months.

Official Denies Umm Qasr Shelled, Helicopters Downed

JN181505 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1440 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Mar (INA) — An authorized military spokesman has denied that the Iranians shelled Umm Qasr harbor in any way. He said that the harbor did not sustain any damage and that the Iranians did not attack any naval target. On the contrary, the spokesman added, it was the Iraqi naval force which dealt a blow to a naval target near the Nawruz oil fields and returned safely to base.

The spokesman noted that the Umm Qasr harbor is open to news agency correspondents and reporters who would like to ascertain the allegations of the Iranians which are intended to cover up their losses and the Iraqi air strikes. The Iraqi spokesman also denied that two Iraqi helicopters were downed and added that Iranian planes bombed a residential border area without inflicting any damage except the martyring of one civilian.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Planes Raid Esfahan Oil Refineries

GF181204 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Military spokesman announcement]

[Excerpt] Squadrons of our gigantic Air Force planes made a sudden and violent raid on the Esfahan refineries inside the Iranian depth at 1110 (0810 GMT) today under the command of the Al-Qadisiyah hero pilot Major Mahmud Jasim Muhammad. They dropped tons of shells, thus hitting its installations so accurately — which Iraq's eagles are known for — and converting them into wreckage and leaving fire and columns of smoke covering the installations of the refineries and the region.

After the eagles carried out their duty, they returned with their planes to the homeland victoriously and triumphantly, carrying with them the signs of God-supported victory. May God bless our Air Force's command, eagles, officers and men. Let the [words indistinct] ruling (?clique) in Iran know that they will inevitably face their terrible and [word indistinct] end. They will soon suffer from humiliation and defeat at the hands of our believing and strong men.

[Date] 18 March 1986

2 Iranian Planes Forced To Flee

JN181030 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1019 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Mar (INA) — Two Iranian planes penetrated Iraq's international borders in the Maysan Governorate today intending to strike at residential areas. Iraqi antiaircraft defenses intercepted them and forced them to flee.

INA has learned from a military source that one civilian was martyred in the incident.

'Medium-Sized' Maritime Target Destroyed

JN181222 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1214 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi Navy destroyed a medium-sized maritime target southeast of Iranian Nowruz oil fields this morning.

In a statement to INA, a military spokesman said the Iraqi Navy delivered the strike at 1015 [0715 GMT] today, destroying and sinking the target on the spot.

Communique No 2,153

JN171804 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,153 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 17 March 1986]

[Excerpt] The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. At the VII Army Corps front, our forces of the heroic Al-Rashid column and the northern column have continued their pressure on enemy remnants with intensive firepower, supported by extensive Air Force, naval, helicopter, and artillery assistance. Our triumphant forces inflicted massive losses on enemy soldiers, equipment, hardware, and weaponry. Our brave forces are imposing absolute control on the operational theater while the enemy is trying in vain to hide in its dens under continuous Iraqi fire day and night.

2. We have pledged to keep their graves open to swallow their remnants and all their means of aggression and evil. By God, we will continue to pursue them both on the battlefield and deep inside their territory day and night until we blunt the claws of tyranny and kill in Gods name the evil spirits which have settled in their bodies. The battle will continue until we strip them of every means of strength so that they will submit to justice in humiliation.

After our daring Air Force planes launched a series of attacks last night in order to spread death and terror among the Khomeyniites, squadrons of our planes raided a concentration of enemy machinery in an area south of Ahvaz at 0940 [0640 GMT] today. The concentration included 183 vehicles of various types and 18 hideouts for enemy weaponry and machinery. Our eagles pounced on their prey with devastating bombs which always hit their targets, turning all vehicles and hideouts into burning junk sending forth flames and smoke.

Our daring Air Force eagles continued their well-known attacks on the heads of the Khomeyniites all day today, flying 179 combat missions. Our planes destroyed many enemy troop concentrations and huge quantities of weapons and equipment. After carrying out all these missions, our pilots returned safely to base, protected by God.

3. In addition to the above, our Air Force raided enemy concentrations and equipment, destroying a command center composed of several trailers, 6 artillery positions, more than 36 vehicles, and 1 ammunition dump. Our daring planes returned safely to base, praise be to God.

4. In addition to their capable, efficient performance, our brave eagles launched a successful raid against a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 0445 [0145 GMT] today. The target received an accurate, effective hit. At 1515 [1215 GMT] today, our planes launched another raid against a second large maritime target near the Iranian coast, dealing it an accurate, effective hit. Our planes returned safely to base, God be praised.

5. The helicopter gunships continued their deadly flights, inflicting massive losses on the enemy in weaponry and equipment and lending splendid support to our land forces which were continuing their pressure on the retreating enemy. Our helicopter gunships flew 118 missions and returned safely to base.

6. The forces of tyranny and aggression shelled the Mandali suburbs, Khurmal, and Darband-e Khan with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Comamnd, 17 March 1986

AL-DUSTUR on U.S. Official's Remarks on Refugees

JN170852 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
17 Mar 86 pp 1, 22

[Editorial: "A New and Serious U.S. Initiative"]

[Text] The statement by a U.S. State Department official calling on Arab countries to absorb Palestinian refugees into their countries constitutes the first initiative of its kind in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

This is an extremely dangerous statement because it was made by a U.S. official whose country is blindly biased toward Israel and provides all means to enable it to ignore the international resolutions and will.

Such a statement, which envisages a U.S. policy that is even more biased toward traditional Israeli viewpoints, is blatant violation of all UN resolutions concerning the Palestinian Arab refugees although the United States, which claims big international responsibility for issues of security and peace in the world, sometimes even voted in favor of these resolutions.

Although this stand, if officially adopted, would not add much to the existing U.S. policy in the region — the policy through which the United States prevents the implementation of the UN and Security Council resolutions in light of its support for Israel — the U.S. announcement of such a stand entails a big change in its theoretical stand toward the refugee issue, and is a serious development that should be confronted in its first stages.

The strange thing is that the statement by the U.S. official, which was addressed directly to the Arab countries, did not receive the attention it deserves. Consequently, this will encourage the U.S. Administration to adopt such a stand in the future as official policy toward the refugee issue and to work to make this principle acceptable.

What makes this surprising U.S. statement more serious is that it comes after the United States and other countries reduced their financial contributions to UNESCO, and after UNESCO, due to a big deficit, reduced its services to the Palestinian refugees and threatened to stop them altogether if the concerned countries, particularly the United States, did not pay their share of UNESCO's budget.

We believe that this U.S. call constitutes a new danger threatening the issue of the Palestinian refugees and their inalienbale right to repatriation or reparation. We stress that the Arab countries should study this stand hinted at by the United States and respond to it with all available means so as to keep thePalestinian issue alive and prevent the Zionist objective of thePalestinain refugees from being absorbed into their Arab host countries.

SAWT AL-SHA'B Condemns Damascus Explosion

JN180736 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
18 Mar 86 p 1

[Editorial "Terrorism is Condemned, Rejected, and Despicable"]

[Text] Regardless of the motives, and the sides which support it, plan for it, and perpetrate it in cold blood based on the logic of false heroism, terrorism will always be a disgraceful and condemned act on the religious, moral, and pan-Arab levels. There is no place in this nation for those who carry out acts of sabotage, destruction, and who seek to fragment homelands and ranks.

Jordan has suffered from terrorism for a long time and, as a result of terrorist acts, has lost some of its best youths and leaders. Its institutions abroad have suffered a great deal because of its clear stands, because its political and ideological line and understanding are based on clear basic pan-Arab principles, and because commitment to these principles was Jordan's only choice.

The terrorist operation carried out in Damascus last Thursday was merely a link in a chain of plots aimed at harming Syria, further splitting Arab ranks, and escalating the differences which are overtaking this nation and exhausting and squandering its energies and capabilities.

Those behind this criminal act, regardless of their nationality and affiliation, with their great courage and heroism, should have detonated their explosives and booby-trapped cars in Tel Aviv and Herzliyya. They should have carried out their rancorous, reckless, and outrageous act against the enemies of the Arab nation, history, mankind, and land.

It seems that the Arab method of dealing with political differences in viewpoints and ideas, which are normal matters, has become in our Arab world a dialogue of weapons, terrorism, and the consequences of this method instead of a rational dialogue. Thus, the Arab situation and action have gone back to square one and the same experiences and negative and destructive results will be repeated.

The pure and honest Arab has no choice but to condemn the criminal and terrorist act that took place in Damascus, and to call for striking with an iron fist at every criminal in this nation who seeks to hamper the march of reconciliation regardless of his objectives and methods.

French Hostages Could Be Freed 'Before Sunday'

NC151221 Paris AFP in English 1214 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Damascus, March 15 (AFP) — Dr. Razzah Ra'd, an unofficial mediator negotiating the release of French hostages held in Beirut, left here for Paris Saturday with offers from the kidnappers which may lead to the release of the prisoners before Sunday, he said.

Dr. Ra'd left on board a private jet at 1100 GMT, and was expected to arrive in France at about 1500 GMT. Dr. Ra'd, a Lebanese-born Frenchman of the Shia Muslem faith, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that he was returning to Paris Saturday afternoon to "report to the Government" of France on his mission. "I am returning with offers," he said. "I hope they are final."

The Islamic Jihad Muslem fundamentalist group kidnapped journalist Jean-Paul Kauffmann, diplomats Marcel Fontaine and Marcel Carton and researcher Michel Seurat in Beirut 10 months ago, and claims to have recently killed Mr. Seurat.

Dr. Ra'd said that the hostages could be released before Sunday's general elections in France if an agreement was struck between Paris and the captors. "I will start my mission again next week if the French authorities ask me," he said, adding that "the door was open" in the talks. He did not elaborate.

In Paris, the French Interior Ministry announced Saturday a reform of the expulsion process and said an investigation had been carried out into the expulsion of the two Iraqis. "The events thus revealed necessitate several administrative measures which are being undertaken," an Interior Ministry statement said. It gave no details on the measures but said they would reinforce human rights guarantees and came into force Saturday.

"The reform that has just been carried out is destined to ensure that in the future the expulsion will not result in sending a person to a country where he or she could face problems for political reasons," the statement said.

Two official French envoys sent to Damascus and Beirut, sent for the hostage crisis, were due back in Paris Saturday, authoritative sources said. Informed sources said a third envoy remained in Tehran.

French External Relations Minister Ronald Dumas has remained in France instead of attending Olof Palme's funeral in Stockholm Saturday, in order to concentrate on the hostage affair, a ministry statement in Paris said.

Ra'd Involvement Criticized

NC171218 Paris AFP in English 1209 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Beirut, March 17 (AFP) — An envoy of President Francois Mitterrand said French hostages held in Lebanon could be released in "the next few days" if France left Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to deal with the situation, the Lebanese daily *AL-NAHAR* reported Monday.

The envoy, 'Umran Adham, a Syrian businessman based in France, told the daily that an informal French envoy, Dr. Razzah Ra'd, had hampered negotiations. Mr. Adham told *AL-NAHAR* that Dr. Ra'd had prevented Syria from dealing with the hostage situation by making ill-considered promises to the kidnappers.

Dr. Ra'd, a Lebanese-born French doctor, had been negotiating with Islamic Jihad, the group which kidnapped diplomats Marcel Carton and Marcel Fontaine, journalist Jean-Paul Kauffmann and researcher Michel Seurat almost a year ago. The group claims it killed Mr. Seurat, but his body has not been found.

A four-man French television crew is also being held hostage in Lebanon.

Mr. Adham said that if Syria reached an agreement with the kidnappers there could be a two-stage release, with the television crew freed first followed by the others.

Karami on Security Situation in West Beirut

NC171532 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Remarks by Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami in response to questions by unidentified correspondents after chairing a meeting of the West Beirut Coordination Committee on 17 March — recorded]

[Text] The Coordination Committee has conducted an in-depth review of the security situation in West Beirut, the measures taken to curb security violations, and the events that all our people have complained of. As you know, we have drawn up and approved a plan, and we are determined to implement its remaining provisions.

In light of the outcome of the National Action Committee meeting, I repeat that the task of the strike force will not deviate from the agreement announced by the Islamic Grouping in Damascus. The strike force will coordinate with the Internal Security Forces at the operations room and with the Army to quell any disturbances that party members might provoke. From this premise, we reiterated our decision to implement what was agreed upon previously. The gunmen, whose only mission is to wreak havoc with the public's security, dignity, and rights, are to assemble, and all offices in West Beirut are to be closed. That is what we agreed upon today.

We also discussed the results of the mission carried out by papal envoy Silvestrini following his meetings in Damascus and Lebanon. I feel that existing differences, particularly those among Christians and, specifically, at the Maronite level, restricted Silvestrini's role to one of listening to ideas from the various parties. Silvestrini announced from the Vatican that these parties would continue their work, and he wished them all success. Frankly, the hopes that some have created are nothing but a waste of time. We have grown into die-hard enemies over the years. Therefore, we hope that all efforts will be channeled in the proper direction so we may all become brothers and sons of the one family. This would crown the principles advocated by the pope — unity and coexistence among the Lebanese.

I have heard a number of voices talking about and promoting security arrangements with the Israeli enemy. I would like to remind you that those voices were the first godparents of the ill-fated 17 May agreement, which was abrogated by honest campaigns. They are currently advocating a similar accord and are emphasizing the need to draft security arrangements. We tell them: No to security arrangements with the Israeli enemy. In saying no, we express the aspirations of the national resistance, which embodies the feelings of all sincere Lebanese.

We reject the security arrangements because they limit Lebanese sovereignty. In addition, they legitimate and legalize Israel's interventions. I would like to recall my July 1984 statement that these security arrangements, which were stipulated by the government, are purely Lebanese. When Israel completes its comprehensive withdrawal, in accordance with Resolution 425, we will be quite prepared to implement the Lebanese security arrangements. We are also prepared to put into effect all the provisions of the armistice agreement. We declare our commitment to this agreement, yet Israel does not consider it binding. This agreement, which cannot be cancelled unilaterally, is still in effect. Thus, we remain committed to it. Let everyone be aware that all the support for the Lebanese security agreement with Israel has no effect. The 17 May agreement has been cancelled, and we are not prepared to conclude anything similar to it.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, you said in your statement that the inter-Christian differences, particularly those involving the Maronites, have rendered the Vatican mission a failure. Do you think that, with this development, we have reached a blind alley?

[Karami] I did not say that the Vatican mission has failed. Rather, I said that the inter-Christian differences, and particularly those with the Maronites did not give the Vatican mission a chance to adopt stands, and thus become a party to the dispute. Therefore, I cannot imagine that the Vatican will be able to meet with greater success than the Lebanese themselves.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, can you explain why the implementation of the security measures in West Beirut has been delayed?

[Karami] There is not any delay. The security forces and the special units daily implement these measures. The strike force will join them today.

[Question] Is your excellency optimistic that this time the security situation in West Beirut will be finally stabilized?

[Karami] We must be optimistic because all the parties are truly committed to implement the program drawn up by the Islamic Conference in Damascus.

[Question] On the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate, have the obstacles, particularly those posed by the U.S Administration, been eliminated?

[Karami] We are waiting for the issue to be discussed at the UN Security Council. We are confident of international support for the UNIFIL mandate because these forces are the sole guarantee of continued security in the south.

[Question] A last question. Mr Prime Minister, yesterday in Tripoli, you delivered an important speech in which you sounded the alarm. Should the citizens be informed that Prime Minister Karami has lost his optimism?

[Karami] I do not want to be dragged into discussing optimism and pessimism. We must talk about the situation as it is. If you ask any citizen, he will tell you that he is concerned about the surrounding dangers, in view of the continuing struggles and of all the aborted solutions. You all are aware of the financial and socioeconomic situation in Lebanon. If we do not take these matters into consideration, we will be deceiving ourselves. This is not in our character. Our warning is based on facts derived from the citizens' daily lives. Let us be God-fearing, and defend the Lebanese and their country.

Birri on Vatican Initiative, USSR Funding of UNIFIL

NC172005 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri said today that the tripartite agreement was followed by the so-called 15 January coup. He added that the military struggle has been deadlocked since then, but that this has had no effect on the political war.

In an interview with the Abu Dhabi-based paper *AL-ITTIHAD*, Minister Birri stated that the prevailing trend in East Beirut is both provocative and military, and shows no appreciation of the papal initiative. Even before the Vatican envoy's departure, a military initiative supplanted the papal one. This military thrust was spelled out by Samir Ja'ja' on the first anniversary of his uprising against the Phalangist Party. A military parade was also held on that occasion.

Minister Birri noted that Israel and its lackeys in the [Lebanese] Forces will push matters toward a full-scale military confrontation in order to reduce the burdens resulting from their losses in southern Lebanon and to distract the attention of the resistance struggle.

On the Vatican initiative for Lebanon, Minister Nabih Birri pointed out: I believe it ended before it began, as the other side [Lebanese Forces] tried to abort it, and its sole purpose was to unite the Christians.

In response to a question, Minister Birri declared that the fight against the regime, be it political or military, continues. He affirmed that there can be no solution with this government. Minister Birri rejected any security arrangements with Israel beyond the provisions of the armistice agreement and Resoluton 425. He also revealed that some intend to ask the Soviet Union to help defray the costs of UNIFIL.

UNRWA Employee Kidnapped in Beirut

NC181111 Paris AFP in English 1104 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Beirut, March 18 (AFP) — A driver of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) was kidnapped Tuesday near the Palestinian refugee camp at Bourj al-Barajinah in the Shia

Muslem-dominated southern Beirut suburbs, an UNRWA statement said.

Zahi Hamadah, a 49-year-old Palestinian refugee who lives at the camp, was taking UNRWA staff to work in a bus when the vehicle was intercepted by a Mercedes, and he was taken away by armed gunmen. British UNRWA journalist Alec Collett has been held hostage in Lebanon since last August.

Strength, Composition of Party Strike Force Revealed

NC171139 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] This morning's joint meeting involving the Beirut National Action Committee and military commanders from the various parties ended at 1130. After the sesion, the committee's secretary, Munir al-Sayyad, pointed out: We discussed the question of deploying the strike force, which will assemble near the Carlton Hotel at 1700 today. It will then take up positions in specific barracks and centers. The battalion is comprised of 425 men drawn from several parties — 55 members from each group.

When asked if Hizballah would be taking part in the strike force, Al-Sayyad replied in the negative. However, he did say that contacts were being held with Hizballah.

As for the closure of party offices, Al-Sayyad noted that a number of groups have already begun closing their offices, and that this process will be completed in a few days. All new party offices will be shut as well. However, each party may retain one main office and one branch. Should any party refuse to close an office, it will be done by force. In addition, all shows of military might have been banned.

He answered a question on coordination with the Palestinian National Salvation Front by saying: We only discussed West Beirut today. The question of security in the camps was not raised. On the price of bread, Al-Sayyad declared: We will not reverse our decision. The price of bread has been set at 3 pounds a kilogram and will be controlled by the Internal Security Forces.

Al-Sayyad pointed out that the Strike Force will maintain positions in Caracas, the Sports City, and at the Holiday Inn. Its command post will be in Al-Rawshah. Al-Sayyad reported that another meeting would be held at 1530 today to delegate responsibilities and distribute men among the barracks.

Strike Force Deploys

NC171926 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] The members of the strike force were deployed in their set positions this evening in accordance with the agreement reached by the National Action Committee and in line with today's accord between the committee and the military command of the strike force. The committee's secretary announced that the force will work in harmony with the West Beirut Security Coordination Committee under Prime Minister Rashid Karami. The secretary added that the strike force will establish roadblocks only at the request of the coordination committee, the security forces, and Army personnel. He noted that the unit's major tasks will include the closure of all newly opened offices. However, each group will be allowed to retain a headquarters and a branch office. In addition, the secretary pointed out that, as of today, the force will be responsible for preventing any shows of military strength. He also revealed that contacts with Hizballah are still under way.

Fighting in Upper al-Matn; Southern Suburb Calm

NC171814 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] According to reports from upper Al-Matn, clashes there, involving the use of machineguns and rockets, are raging. A guarded calm prevails along the combat lines in the southern suburb. Bursts of machinegun fire are now being heard along the Suq al-Gharb-'Aytat line.

Further on Operations, Fighting in South

'Resistance' Details Actions

NC171152 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] The Islamic Resistance Front has issued a statement saying that the martyr Abu 'Arabi forces fired two 107-mm Grad rockets this morning at a position held by agent Lahd's militia in Al-Surayri, which is in Jazzin district. They also shot three 107-mm Grad rockets at the Marj 'Uyun Barracks and another two at the occupied Galilee. There is no additional information available on these operations due to the imposition of a security cordon. At dawn today, National Resistance fighters shelled the crossing point in Ra's al-Naqurah, destroying a center used by enemy guards and killing all those inside. A third group bombarded a post belonging to a unit of Israeli engineers in the Iskandarunah area, scoring direct hits.

Israeli-Lahd Patrol Attacked

NC181035 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] National Resistance fighters detonated an explosive charge this morning in Wadi Sribbin, which is in the western part of southern Lebanon, as a mechanized patrol mounted by the occupation forces and Lahd's militia passed by. The blast destroyed a vehicle and killed or wounded all those inside. Israeli helicopters then flew over the scene of the operation, as the occupation troops and Lahd units deployed on the surrounding hills opened fire with heavy- and medium-caliber machineguns.

Israeli naval vessels were also seen patrolling the waters off the southern coast between Al-Naqurah and Sidon. Israeli warplanes conducted low-altitude sorties and broke the sound barrier over Sidon.

U.S. Will Pay Price of Ignoring Repatriation Right

JN171649 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Palestine broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brother strugglers: Some 2 days ago, a U.S. spokesman was clear on the Palestinian Arab people's rights. He was even clearer than required because he divested the Palestinian Arab people of most of their inalienable national rights, including those recognized by UN resolutions in 1948 and 1949, in other words, the right to repatriation and the right to regain some land occupied by the Zionist invasion 1 year prior to and also 1 year after the declaration of the Zionist entity.

The land is that of the triangle, the Negev, and most of the Galilee, in other words, most of so-called Israel.

This U.S. stand is not new. However, what is new in it is that it, or rather the United States, has declared war against the Palestinian Arab people and their inalienable national rights. The U.S. spokesman said Israel was created to last and that the Palestinian refugees' return to their homes conflicts with this, which means Israel's existence necessitates the death of the Palestinian Arab people — a death sought by the United States and Israel.

The U.S. spokesman gave more details explaining this equation by admitting that 2 million Palestinian refugees living outside Palestinian territory are still hoping to return home. He said Arab countries should not nourish this delusion, as he put it. This is full U.S. ignorance about the truth of the Palestine question.

The U.S. spokesman, as well as his country, imagines that the relationship between the Arabs and the Palestinians is similar to that between the United States and its agents in Nicaragua for example.

The United States imagines that the Arabs might end supporting the Palestinians just as it can stop backing its agents in this or that Latin American country. The hope for repatriation is not only a luminous hope, but also a right mentioned in UN documents.

Moreover, this right is being protected by millions of Palestinians and tens of millions of Arabs.

The United States must understand that the right to an honorable return to Palestine, as well as the right to regaining Palestinian national rights, are not only Palestinian rights but are also rights of the Arab nation. The right to return to Palestinian territory is not only a Palestinian hope nourished by Arabs or Arab countries, but is also a common hope existing in the conscience of all Arabs in general and Palestinians in particular, because the latter are an indivisible part of the Arab nation.

This is the foremost fact in the region and the world which cannot be canceled by the behavior of those Arabs who have lost faith and national honor. The right to repatriation is not only a right for 2 million Palestinians, but also for 200 million Arabs. Ignoring this fact by the United States means that it will pay dearly, just as Zionism will pay the full price.

Hostage Release Efforts Made Within Capabilities

JN171300 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, there has been much talk recently about the kidnapped French hostages and about contacts between French envoys and representatives of the kidnappers or the sides protecting the kidnappers. Talk about the hostage issue intensified before the French parliamentary elections conducted yesterday which resulted in a victory for the right-wing alliance with an absolute majority in the National Assembly and in the loss for the ruling Socialist Party to the position of first party in the National Assembly with 214 seats but without a majority.

The linkage between the hostage issue and the French elections was clear. The imposition of the hostage issue in French political life and the elections is an internal French affair linked to the rules of the political game in France as well as to the traditions, bases, and party competition in that country.

Media observers noticed a premeditated intention to involve Syria in this issue in one way or another. This involvement was not confined to the explanation and interpretation of the mission of the French envoys and others who came to Syria. Some French media organs went further and hinted that Syria, which has a presence in Lebanon, could locate the hostages, release them, and send them safely to their families.

Of course, some of those who involve Syria have good intentions, but those are few. Others do so, not out of good intentions, but to harm Syria in French public opinion, and maybe in world public opinion. It will not be easy to do so because facts speak stronger than illusions and claims.

Syria is in principle against terrorism, and Syria, out of its principles, is also against kidnapping defenseless people, journalists, and diplomats. Syria believes that just causes do not need unjust tools. The victory of these causes does not demand the kidnapping or killing of innocent people. Syria's stand condemning terrorism and kidnapping is very well known in the world. This stand was stressed and repeated by President Hafiz al-Asad on many occasions — in his speeches and statements to European and U.S. media organs. This Syrian stand is firm and has not changed.

Syria of course distinguishes between terrorism and national resistance of occupation and aggression. Syria has always warned against the danger of being deceived by Israeli attempts to label the Lebanese, Palestinian, and Arab national resistance of Israeli aggression and occupation as an act of aggression. This resistance is competely legitimate and, in fact, is required, just as the French resistance against the Nazi occupation was required and legitimate.

Syria opposes terrorism and kidnapping directed at innocent civilian people, diplomats, and defenseless journalists who are carrying out their normal work. On many occasions, Syria has helped efforts to release kidnapped people, leading these efforts to success.

In the issue of the French hostages in particular, Syria has played a positive role well known by the French president and government. If the efforts exerted so far have not yet led to the release of the hostages, who are alive, Syria is not responsible for this; it is the responsibility of circumstances in which Syria has no hand and which France knows well. In light of the available capabilities, Syria will continue to support efforts being exerted to find circumstances and conditions that can facilitate and achieve the release of the hostages.

It goes without saying that Syria has a moral influence in Lebanon and a presence in some Lebanese areas. However, Syria has no presence in each city, village, farm, and house in Lebanon. Syria's presence in Lebanon is not equal and should not be compared to the French presence in France. If the French authorities are incapable of discovering a number of French and foreign terrorists in France who are wanted by French justice, it is unfair to think that Syria is capable of determining where the French hostages are located.

Syria has helped in the efforts exerted to release the hostages and ensure their safety. It will continue this help within the available capabilities.

Khaddam Receives UN's Goulding, Delegation

JN171922 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received at 1800 today Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary general for political affairs, and his accompanying delegation. The meeting was attended by Major General 'Adnan Tayyarah. The discussion dealt with the latest developments in the Middle East and the situation in Lebanon, especially in the south.

Khaddam affirmed the need to achieve a comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon and to apply UN Security Council resolutions.

'National Solution' Opponents in 'Vicious' Circle

JN170958 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus, 17 Mar (SANA) — *TISHRIN* affirms that those who obstructed the implementation of a Lebanese national solution represented by the tripartite agreement are moving in a vicious circle. Their efforts are far from dealing with the crux of the Lebanese crisis. The paper adds that recent events have proved that a solution in Lebanon should be based on a solid national foundation, on a broad popular rally around it, and on a new situation in which affiliation with and sincerity to the homeland should be the criterion and basis.

In an editorial under the healdine "National Solution," the newspaper asks: What have those who obstructed a solution achieved, and where are they going? *TISHRIN* says: It seems today that the horizon is dark. It will be darker still if Lebanon departs from a national solution.

TISHRIN adds: Facts have proved that those who obstruct a solution represent only themselves, that nobody has responded to their weak proposals buried in the 11 years of internecine fighting. Those people did not find anybody in Lebanon to hold dialogue with, nor will they find anybody. They have closed the doors on themselves and on Lebanon at the same time.

The newspaper stresses that the intentions of those who obstructed the tripartite agreement were not good toward Lebanon and their fellow citizens. *TISHRIN* asks: Would tension and internecine fighting be an alternative to the national solution entrenched by the tripartite agreement? Would closing doors, making the people feel desperate, paralyzing the national economy, encouraging factional and divisionist proposals, and enabling the enemy to tamper with the south be alternatives to the big national achievement sponsored by Syria — the solution planned to restore Lebanon's vital role, to recover Lebanon, and to achieve peace, security, and prosprerity there?

TISHRIN concludes: Syria pledged and remains determined to help Lebanon. Syria will certainly continue cooperation with all honest people to implement a national solution after everybody realizes the bankruptcy of those who obstructed the tripartite agreement.

Additional Reportage on 13 Mar Damascus Explosion

Casualty Toll Reaches 200

NC171846 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] The investigation into last Thursday [13 March] evening's explosion in Damascus' Al-'Abbasiyin Square has revealed a number of details. The Voice of Lebanon has learned that the inquiry uncovered the fact that the [booby-trapped] truck had a Lebanese license plate, but its authenticity has not been confirmed. According to additional information made available to the Voice of Lebanon today, the number of casualties has risen to 200 dead or wounded, above and beyond the grave damage to buildings and cars.

As a result of the blast, the Syrian authorities have put stringent security measures into effect along the border with Lebanon. They have been conducting a meticulous search of cars in Al-Masna'.

Iraq 'Booby-Trapped' Truck

JN171747 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] At 1830 on Thursday evening 13 March 1986, the Iraqi regime sent out a booby-trapped refrigerator truck which was detonated by a mercenary near the northern entrance of Damascus. This criminal act led to the wounding of a number of citizens who were in that area. The security forces arrested the criminal who is now in the hands of justice.

'Confession' Obtained

NC172126 Paris AFP in English 2107 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus, March 17 (AFP) — A Lebanese "mercenary in the pay of the Iraqi Government" carried out a truck bombing in Damascus last Thursday, injuring a number of people, state-run television said here on Monday, in the first reference to such an incident.

The number of casualties was not reported.

In a purported confession, a man identified as Ahmad Hassan 'Id, 27, told viewers that he undertook the mission in exchange for parole from a jail term in Iraq after killing an Iraqi officer and three members of his family in a road accident.

The bomb, placed in a refrigerator truck, was to have been detonated by remote control outside an officers' club in central Damascus, but he failed to get close enough, he said. The television said the vehicle exploded at the northeastern entrance to the capital.

Mr 'Id said the truck was handed over to him at an Iraqi intelligence base a few kilometres (miles) from the Iraqi-Jordanian border, and his mission controller was a Palestinian-Jordanian national named Rajab Radwan who owned a road transport firm in Baghdad. He said he received a 1,500-dollar advance payment against "expenses."

Mr 'Id said he had worked as a truck driver moving between Iraq and other Middle Eastern countries, after fleeing the war in Lebanon in 1976.

Accused Interviewed

JN171735 [Editorial Report] Damascus television in Arabic at 1735 GMT on 17 March carries a 10-minute video-recorded interview with a man accused of detonating a booby-trapped refrigerator truck near the northern entrance of Damascus at 1830 on Thursday 13 March.

He said his name is Ahmad Hassan 'Id of Lebanese nationality, born in Dayr 'Ammar, Lebanon, in 1959. He said he works as a trailer driver and that in 1976 he left for Iraq to find work there. He worked in an Iraqi yogurt factory until 1980. In 1980 he returned to Lebanon and drove a trailer owned by his cousin. He drove the trailer through Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia transporting goods.

When work dwindled because of the Iraq-Iran war, Ahmad turned the trailer into a fuel tanker operating between Baghdad and Aqaba. He said that in November 1985 a road traffic accident occurred in Baghdad when a car carrying an Iraqi military officer and his family hit his fuel tanker. The Iraqi family died in the accident. Ahmad was imprisoned in an Iraqi jail in the Al-Ramadi Governorate for 52 days.

Two men, Rajab Radwan and his son Marwan Radwan, visited him in jail to get him released on bail. Ahmad said their nationality is "Palestinian-Jordanian." They offered to help him and took him to their transportation office in Baghdad. They also fixed his damaged vehicle. The two men asked Ahmad to drive a refrigerator truck from Iraq and to leave it in Syria. Ahmad agreed to perform this task.

Some 2-3 days later, Rajab told Ahmad that the refrigerator truck he was asked to drive to Syria would be booby-trapped and that he should detonate it opposite an officers club in Syria. Ahmad agreed to this mission under threats of being taken back to jail if he failed to carry out the mission. Ahmad was promised money and good treatment in Iraq.

Ahmad and Marwan left Baghdad accompanied by two Iraqi officers to [the Iraqi town of] Al-Rutbah. Ahmad said: "We arrived in Al-Rutbah and entered an intelligence center. I saw a parked yellow Mercedes refrigerator truck. I was told that this was the refrigerator truck I would take. An Iraqi intelligence officer, accompanied by a soldier, told me that this refrigerator truck was booby-trapped and that they would teach me how to use it."

Ahmad said he was given a device and told to put batteries in it. He was also told to keep the device with him while away from the truck and to detonate it from a distance of four blocks. He was told to press a button to blow up the refrigerator truck.

Marwan gave $1500 to Ahmad for trip expenses. Ahmad left Iraqi territory and entered the H-4 border post. The following day, he passed the Dar'a border post into Syrian territory. Inspecting the location where he was asked to park the refrigerator truck, Ahmad discovered it was difficult to enter the area of the Syrian officers club. Ahmad then parked the truck 40 meters away from a bridge near the northern entrance of Damascus, detonating the truck on Thursday 13 March.

AL-BA'TH Blames Saddam Husayn

JN180610 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0437 GMT 18 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Conspirators Cannot Undermine Syria's Steadfastness," the newspaper *AL-BA'TH* says: Thanks to its people's sacrifices and its leader's efforts, in a short period of time Syria has become the symbol of Arab steadfastness and dignity and the trench in which all plots and aggressions will founder. This is why our enemies, big and small, have lost control. They had been plotting in their dens mean crimes in a desperate attempt to affect Sryia's steadfastness and undermine its firm and principled stands.

Within this framework falls the hideous crime planned by Iraq's criminal executioner Saddam Husayn in sending a boody-trapped refrigerator truck to the capital of steadfastness to spread destruction and death. The criminal executioner who destroyed Iraq and its people and wasted its resources through his crazy war against Iran believed, along with his imperialist and Zionist masters, that through this crime they could achieve their evil objectives.

But, ignominy to them, they only can carry out acts of sabotage and kill innocent citizens. They are impotent to affect Syria or undermine its people's steadfastness and their determination to pursue struggle and strengthen their stands. On the contrary, those mean crimes will only increase our determination, because we know that we are proceeding on the sound course, realizing that this course requires sacrifices, sweat, and blood.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* stresses: Syria, which is strong beside its Arab nation, people, party, and the leader of its victorious march, and which is the symbol and conscience of the Arab nation, will continue the march of struggle. It will not be affected by plotting and treason regardless of their form and size. Let every criminal, agent, and traitor, foremost being Iraq's fascist executioner Saddam, know that Syria is capable of putting an end to their brutal crimes. Any crime will bring double retaliation to all those who attempt to act against the Arab masses and their legitimate aspirations of liberating the occupied Arab territories and regaining all usurped rights. Just as it has achieved victory in all the battles it has entered, it will achieve victory over any new attempt from any side. Victory will eventually be at the side of the Arab masses, whose aspirations and objectives are expressed by Syria.

Israel To Continue Efforts Toward Peace, Negotiations

TA130606 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The prime minister has declared that Israel will continue to aim at continuing the peace process and at negotiations with Jordan and moderate Palestinians. In a speech before the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel, in Tel Aviv, he emphasized that the deadlock that has recently developed in this regard will not discourage him. However, at the same time Israel will increase its activities to improve the quality of life of the residents of the territories.

The U.S. ambassador to Israel, Thomas Pickering, spoke on the same occasion. He also emphasized that the U.S. Administration will not relinquish its commitment to the peace process and its efforts to give it momentum, despite efforts by radical and terroristic elements to disrupt the political process and make our lives difficult.

Peres Addresses Jurists on Legal Status of Territories

TA171903 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says there can be no change in the legal status of the territories until the peace process has run its course. Peres explained that the Camp David agreement and the decision by the coalition prevented extending the Israeli law to the area [of the] West Bank and Gaza. The prime minister went on to say that Gaza was never part of Egypt and the international community never recognized Jordan's annexation of the West Bank. Peres was addressing an international conference of jurists at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

[Begin Peres recording] Legislation must come as a result of the political process; it can neither precede it nor replace it. In other words, if in the human realm legislation must wait patiently until the process of nation-building will reach a point of stability, in the geographic realm, too, legislation must wait until the peace process runs its course. But in the territories, as with the people, the long corridor of preparation must be filled by the judiciary. The government must guarantee the safety and security of all, Jews and Arabs alike, and the courts must ensure justice for all, regardless of indentity, passport, or permanence. [end recording]

AL-SHA'B Editorial

TA171124 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 14 Mar 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Rabin's Options"]

[Text] In a lecture on the future of the occupied territories Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin affirmed Israel's rejection of the option of the establishment of a Palestinian state.

This old-new rejection is connected to insistence by the Labor Party, which shares power with the Likud, on putting forward plans and programs that ultimately mean writing off the Palestinian people, their cause and their rights. It also denotes an attempt to rally around the "Jordanian option" and "self-administration" slogans.

This clear stance must serve as a reminder to numerous international circles that speak of opportunities lost by the Palestinians and of constructive positions that Israel has begun adopting during Peres' term in office. These positions are similar to those of the Likud in their essence, aims, and ideology.

When Rabin rules out the option of a Palestinian state, he is, in fact, ruling out the peace option and affirming Israel's commitment to the option of war, expansion, and tension. The entire world now realizes that achievement of peace in this tense region depends on the realization of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights of return, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state.

Regardless of how some may try to evade or deny these facts they will constantly find themselves — as recent days have proved — returning to square one and confronting the reality that it is impossible to ignore legitimate Palestinian rights.

Peres Hopes for $25 Billion for Economic Plan

TA171257 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 17 Mar 86 p 2

[Report by Yosi Melman]

[Text] The prime minister hopes that $25 billion will be collected for his Middle East Policy plan "Economics for Peace." During yesterday's Cabinet session, Shim'on Peres mentioned the sum for the first time since he first proposed this plan during his trip to Europe about 3 months ago.

In reply to a question by Minister of Commerce and Industry Ari'el Sharon, the prime minister stressed that he hopes this sum will be collected from the seven most industrialized countries in the world, through their commercial and state banks.

During his short visit to Stockholm, the prime minister discussed his plan with Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, French President Francois Mitterrand, former Japanese Prime Minister Fukuda, and West German Chancellor Helmut Khol, and he will discuss it at length with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz when he visits Washington in about 2 weeks.

Peres, who has expressed fears over the possible military and political implications for the Middle East as a result of the economic crisis afflicting the Arab countries and the drop in their oil prices, hopes that Western economic aid will help maintain stability in the area. It will be noted that the sum of $25 million [as published] is greater than the State of Israel's budget and many ministers, including the economic ministers, are skeptical about whether this sum — or even a sum approaching it — really can be raised from the Western countries.

Prime Minister Peres Views Palestinian Claims

PM171419 Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 14 Mar 86 p 5

[Interview with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres by Cordelia Edvardsson: "Modern Socialism Has Lost a Leader" — no date given]

[Excerpts] Jerusalem — "Olof Palme was one of the leader figures in the troika of modern socialism," Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said in an interview with *SVENSKA DAGBLADET*. The two others are Willy Brandt and Bruno Kreisky.

One point on which the party brothers [Peres and Palme] disagreed was the Palestinian problem. Olof Palme was one of the many people who recognized the Jewish people's right to self-determination as enshrined by the United Nations when the State of Israel was founded but who could not understand how the same right could be denied the Palestinian people. Can Peres explain this difference?

He was very irritated by the question, but then he said something about 22 Arab states that enjoy self-determination and about a tiny area about which there is disagreement.

"Egypt, the United States and Israel reached agreement in the Camp David agreement that the Palestinians should participate in the determination of their future," Peres said. "But the West Bank does not belong to them alone, ownership is disputed, and a settlement can only be reached through negotiations."

But what does he think in principle about the Palestinian people's right to self-determination?

"You cannot make a difference between people and country," Peres said. "Self-determination applies just as much, and even more, to the country as to the people. In addition, self-determination can only be achieved in surroundings of peace and freedom. As long as shootings and murders are going on, it is impossible."

Another questions that Peres is bound to meet from his Swedish party colleagues is about living conditions for the Palestinians in the occupied areas. He and his colleagues are fond of talking about their efforts to improve "the quality of life" on the West Bank and in Gaza. How does this square with the fact that expulsions and administrative arrests (arrests without trials or sentences) have increased dramatically on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip in his time as prime minister? At the same time as the so-called "family reunification" has almost ceased?

"After stopping settlement on the West Bank when I came to office, we were hit by a wave of terrorist activities," Peres explained. "We found that the use of emergency legislation, which is within the framework of the law, was the best way to stop the terrorism."

It is true that new settlements have been stopped during Peres' time, but, at the same time, 9,000 new settlers have moved to existing settlements on the West Bank and 5,000 new dwellings are being built in these "old" settlements. How does Shimon Peres explain this?

"We cannot halt life in midstream," he said. "The extension of already existing settlements is something on which we agreed in the Camp David agreement," he replied.

How is the so-called peace process. What are Prime Minister Peres' hopes now after King Husayn of Jordan's dramatic speech and after the reactions on the West Bank? The king received no support on the West Bank; the Palestinians more or less unanimously backed PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat.

"We are waiting for the dust to settle," Shimon Peres, the man of inexhaustible patience, replied. "Then, we will return to the path of negotiations; there is no alternative. Nor do I take the first reactions from the West Bank as final. They were a shock reaction. But what was clear was that even the king, who was trying to negotiate with the PLO, realized that it is impossible to reach agreement with that organization. What was also shown was that even when the PLO is not engaging in terrorist activity — which is something that they do — they themselves become the targets of more extreme groups. We have done what we could, we have acceded to the majority of King Husayn's wishes, but we cannot force anyone to the negotiating table."

But Shimon Peres is still not the sort of man who gives up.

"I will not cease to work and act in the direction of peace," he said in conclusion.

This work will probably begin this Friday [14 March], when he meets many of the world's leaders, who could help to revitalize the peace process in the Middle East.

Shamir Briefs Knesset Committee on Tabah Talks

TA171235 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Today the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee debated Tabah affairs with Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports to us now from the committee::

Appearing before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir mainly reviewed the development of relations with Egypt and the Tabah talks. Progress was achieved on several matters in these talks, but the dispute over the main points has remained. For example, he said that no agreement has been achieved between the two countries on the text of the question that is to be submitted to the arbiters.

The Egyptians are demanding that the arbiters be named and be empowered to determine the location of the border stones in Tabah, while Israel is proposing that the arbiters be consulted on where the border stones should be placed. There is also a fierce dispute over the question of conciliation. As is well known, Israel is demanding a stage of conciliation before the arbitration, but Egypt is proposing conciliation between the two sides in talks between them and not via the arbiters. But the countries are also in dispute over the status of the country that loses in the arbitration over the disputed area.

In addition to the Tabah question and the meeting between the directors general, the matter of normalization between the two countries was also discussed. Yitzhaq Shamir said that he believes the majority of the Israeli nation wants peace, but this is not the case in Egypt. It is inconceivable that the Tabah question be discussed without settling normalization between the two countries, he said. He said there would also be changes on this matter, but relations between the two countries must not be frozen. He quoted officials in Egypt who have admitted that while the decisive majority in Israel wants peace, this is not the case in Egypt.

This is where the committee debate began, with the speakers split over the question of relations with Egypt and the ways to improve them. The committee chairman, Abba Eban, asked for what he called the ceiling of expectations to be lowered, while Knesset Member Yosi Sarid said it is now clear that the Tabah issue is procrastination. Many more years will pass and nothing will happen; peace will simply be suppressed and eliminated. He attacked the internal situation in the Likud, in Herut, which will just make it more difficult to stabilize peace with Egypt, and to this Dan Meridor said: The time has not yet come for a big fuss to be made over this.

'No Logic' in U.S. Suggestion

TA180628 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Mar 86 pp 1, 2

[Report by Asher Wallfish and Benny Morris]

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Shamir yesterday said there was no logic in U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's suggestion that the Israeli-Egyptian committee discussing the procedure for solving the Tabah dispute end its deliberations by April 1.

But a senior Israeli official involved in the talks told *THE JERUSALEM POST* that most of the Tabah compromise is already written. The two countries are due to resume negotiations tomorrow in Cairo.

Shamir made his remark during an appearance before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee. He added that, instead of suggesting deadlines, the U.S. ought to persuade Egypt to implement the commitments it has already made on bilateral issues such as normalization of relations.

Shamir complained that the Egyptians are promising progress towards normalization only after the two countries have signed the compromise, as the joint document governing the arbitration process is officially designated.

The foreign minister also said he told Murphy last week that Israel would not give up its demand that the stage of conciliation over Tabah precede arbitration.

Shamir To Reject Territorial Compromise While Premier

TA171841 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Vice Premier Yitzhaq Shamir says that if any Arab country offers territorial compromise after he becomes prime minister, he will reject it. He was speaking to the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Jack Katzenell reports:

[Begin Katzenell recording] Labor Party Knesset Member Shevah Weiss asked Vice Premier Shamir: In the light of the glee which you and your colleagues display when the peace initiatives of the Labor Alignment run into difficulties, what will your peace policy be after the rotation, when you are prime minister? Shamir replied: I am not in the habit of rejoicing at other people's misfortunes. When a Likud representative will head the government, he will act in accordance with its guidelines. If any Arab power came and offered territorial compromise, I should not accept it, but I would see it as a sign of growing flexibility. Nor would I ever give any encouragement to the idea of an international conference, because I regard it as a threat to Israel. [end recording]

Sharon Proposal To Split Herut Positions Rejected

TA180533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Vice Premier Yitzhaq Shamir met for several hours last night with his supporters in the battle for control of the Herut Party. The ministers did not raise new ideas but declared everything must be done to preserve the unity of the party. They rejected a proposal by Ari'el Sharon to solve the crisis by splitting the three main party positions among Shamir, Sharon, and David Levi.

Abba Eban Invited To Visit Egypt for Talks

TA171537 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Abba Eban, the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, will visit Egypt next month at the invitation of the Egyptian Government. Knesset Member [MK] Eban will hold talks with government leaders in Cairo, and will also give a lecture at the Diplomatic Center in the Egyptian capital. Our correspondent in the Knesset, 'Oded Ben-'Ami, points out that the invitation to MK Eban was extended by Muhammad Basyuni, the Egyptian charge d'affaires in Israel.

E. Jerusalem Firm Warned Against Nonpayment of Debts

TA171646 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] The energy minister has warned of the grave consequences of failure by the East Jerusalem Electric Coropration to repay its debts. Reporting to the Knesset on his ministry's acrivity, Minister Shahal said that the East Jerusalem Corporation must understand that it is impossible to prevent the Israel Electricity Company from collecting its dues. He claimed that the East

Jerusalem company has not overhauled or maintained its antiquated and dilapidated installations. It purchases most of the electricity from Israel, and has in fact become a middleman.

The energy minister disclosed that he was prepared to accept a proposal raised by the East Jerusalem company that a joint board of directors be set up for that company and its Israeli counterpart. Furthermore, he also accepted its offer of repayment of debts by way of electricity supply from Jordan to Isreal. However, he claimed, the company directors changed their minds and retracted the offers at the last moments.

AL-FAJR Editorial Views Murphy's Mideast Tour

TA171626 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 14 Mar 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Pessimism" and "Optimism" in the U.S. Thinking]

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, who was in Tunis, then in Cairo, and then recently in Tel Aviv, announced that he is "somewhat pessimistic." Despite the fact that we are pessimistic about the entire U.S. position, as it has been and as it is today, we are not aware at what time Murphy was "somewhat optimistic" in order that he might announce limited pessimism in the current stage.

The U.S. position has been established on the basis of rejecting recognition of the PLO, and on ignoring all the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination. Despite all the shuttle trips by the U.S. envoy himself to the region's capitals, this intransigent U.S. position has remained unchanged. The Palestinian position, as well, has remained clear, explicit, and decisive in confronting U.S. maneuvers and conspiracies in this connection. What optimism was there in order that later on there might be pessimism?

Perhaps the United States was counting on the breakup and collapse of the special Palestinian-Jordanian relations following King Husayn's speech on 19 February, and consequently on the suspension of political coordination between Jordan and the PLO as a new source of optimism for its envoy Richard Murphy, based on which he would immediately make preparations to bypass the PLO completely by means of Jordan and negotiations with Israel.

However, this U.S. opportunistic optimism was not warranted, as the PLO's recent statement affirmed the special Palestinian-Jordanian relations and left the door open to a new and pleasant stage in these relations.

Therefore, it is this statement, insisting on our inalienable rights, on the need for the commitment to these rights until their implementation, and on the requirement of a joint political Arab move to confront the problems and difficulties of the current stage, that imposed pessimism though only "somewhat" — on Richard Murphy during his current trip.

May this pessimism continue as long as the U.S. Administration remains in its current intransigent position.

AL-QUDS Views U.S., Israeli Policies on Palestinians

TA171255 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 14 Mar 86 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "A Policy of Scorn"]

[Text] Richard Murphy's visit to the Middle East has ended and he returned to his country without paying a visit to the Jordanian capital, as had been anticipated. If this is proof of anything it is proof that the U.S. efforts to obtain the support, backing, and participation of the main Arab parties to impose the "peace" that it desires, and which does not take into consideration the aspirations and hopes of the Palestinian people, have come to an end.

We are on the verge of a new stage in which the United States and Israel will first try to impose settlements on the Palestinian people and later on the Arabs, without involving them. These settlements will try to reinforce the fait accompli through the implementation of unilateral self-rule with Israeli participation.

The United States and Israel have realized that the Palestinian people are not trying to change names or perform cosmetic surgery on the topograpical form of the occupation, but are calling for a comprehensive, just, and durable peace that guarantees all the parties in the conflict, including the Palestinian people, the right to live in security and dignity within their own states.

At present, the United States and Israel are promoting the concept of improving the quality of life, transfer of authority, and rehabilitation of the economic sectors, while leaving the occupation as it is.

We ask: How can the Palestinian people in the occupied territories advance themselves economically, socially, and humanly when they do not see before them any options except the option of a fait accompli represented in continued occupation? This option has been rejected by our people not because of our love of rejection but because we want to be saved from the perpetuation of the state of no peace and no war that the United States and Israel are endeavoring to reinforce by proposing old plans, although this time in a new formula.

What we in the occupied territories regret is the discord and fragmentation in the Arab arena — a discord that constitutes a green light for the continuation of a policy of intransigence and scorn pursued by the United States and Israel toward the Palestinian rights in particular and the Arab rights in general.

Jerusalem Analyzes Syrian Media's Attitude on Israel

JN171700 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1440 GMT 17 Mar 86

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen: One manifestation that is reflected in the Syrian news media from time to time is the media's reiteration that Al-Asad's Syria does not fear or submit to threats and that it is ready to face any threat regardless of the costs and sacrifices. This manifestation was again reflected in the

Syrian media last week following President al-Asad's 8 March speech, which was full of threats against Israel, extremist stands, and negative rejection.

In its editorial last Thursday, the newspaper *AL-BA'TH* said: Israeli threats do not scare us just as they did not scare us in the past.

Since the absolute truth is that not one Israeli official has threatened Syria in the present or in the near and distant past, one has to ask: What is behind the Syrian media's talk of threats and the lack of any fear of these threats? This question becomes even more relevant when we know that Israel has often stated in the most unequivocal terms that it is not interested in creating tension or entering into any confrontation.

Israel has often asserted that it is not interested in war and that it does not want war with Syria or any other state. It only wants peaceful coexistence with the Arab states and peoples. These Israeli assurances do not stem from a position of weakness, but from the firm conviction that wars do not solve problems between peoples and that negotiation and mutual understanding are the best and most honorable ways to solve international problems and disputes.

Still, the observer is at a loss as to now he can describe the Syrian media's constant talk of threats at a time when Israel has not made any such threats, whether in open or concealed form. But if the observer is confused as to whether to call this manifestation funny, ridiculous, or tragic, he can, no doubt, attribute it to any one or a combination of the following factors and reasons:

1. Syrian media men seem to imagine that their verbal antics can present the Damascus rulers as heroes. But they forget that such propaganda can only portray them and their rulers as a bunch of Don Quixotes charging upon imaginary windmills.

2. It could be that the Damascus rulers believe that the language of threats is the only language to use in dealings between states and also between rulers and their peoples. This interpretation is substantiated by the fact that the history of the current Damascus rulers is full of threats that they have made in all directions. Al-Asad and his defense minister, Mustafa Talas, have taken turns in making such threats. He threatens to chop off his enemy's fingers and the defense minister threatens to burn what was left of those fingers. We may not be far from the truth if we say that not a single Arab ruler or Lebanese leader has been spared the Damascus rulers' threats, which were made for the sake of intimidation or for sheer political and financial extortion.

3. The Damascus rulers imagine and believe that they are being threatened at all times and from all directions inside and outside Syria. Their fear of threats is real, which is why they seem to suffer from a persecution phobia — a psychological state of mind that is very common among those who engage in terrorism and blackmail. In such a case, may God help them and the Syrian people, who are being ruled by steel and fire and are subjected to all kinds of oppression and intellectual and physical terrorism.

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Meets With UAE Official

LD161729 Algiers APS in Arabic 1530 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Algiers, 16 Mar (APS) — The president of the Republic and general secretary of the FLN party, Chadli Bendjedid, received today at the Presidency Shaykh Dr Sultan Ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the Supreme Council of the UAE and the rule of Sharjah. Talks were held in-cameria then were extended to include the two delegations. Those who took part in the talks on the Algerian side were Dr Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi, Political Bureau member and minister of foreign affairs, Larbi Belkheir, member of the Central Committee and director of the Presidential Office. And in the guest delegation was Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sultan al-Qasimi, the minister of state at the federal government and chairman of the oil department in the Emirate of Sharjah.

Senegalese Minister Ends Visit to Algiers

LD152228 Algiers APS in Arabic 1735 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Algiers, 15 Mar [APS] — Medoume Fall, Senegalese minister of the armed forces and special envoy of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, left Algiers this morning at the end of a 4-day visit to Algeria.

During his stay, the Senegalese envoy conveyed a message from President Diouf to President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN Party.

LIBYA

Continuing Reportage on Anti-Imperialism Conference

Call for Hitting U.S. Interests

LD171903 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1240 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpts] About 4 and 1/2 years ago — August 1981 to be precise — more that 240 revolutionary organizations and liberation movements from about 80 countries, fighting for the final emancipation, held their first conference and decided to choose the Jamahiriyah as an international center for combatting imperialism, Zionism, racism, reactionism, and fascism.

During the 4 years that followed the first conference, big developments took place in the confrontation front between the forces of imperialism, spearheaded by the United States and the international revolutionary forces, with the Jamahiriyah at their forefront. The imperialist United States has exhausted all its forces and means, means of propaganda, intelligence, and war in a light attempt which was directed against the Jamahiriyah in its capacity as the beating heart of international liberation movements, and which provides anything in support of the question of freedom everywhere; and in its capacity as the only Arab country where the voice of justice is heard and which calls for integral Arab unity and for armed struggle against Zionism, the imperialist presence in the region, the liberation of occupied Palestine from the river to the sea.

The responsibility shouldered by this extraordinary grouping of international revolutionary organizations and liberation movements, which are assembled today on the soil of the Jamahiriyah — the international platform for combatting imperialism, Zionism, reactionism, racism, and fascism — is a collosal responsibility which is epitomized in putting an end to U.S. arrogance. This can be achieved by hitting U.S. interests everywhere, by destroying its monopolizing institutions and companies which are spread world-wide, if the United States tries to carry out its hostile threat against the Libyan Arab people.

There is no doubt that this big number of international revolutionary movements and liberation organizations, which came from more than 80 countries to attend their second international conference, are capable of achieving that if they decide to do so. The mad U.S. bull, no matter how big and strong it may be, will succumb when stabs are directed against it from everywhere. Any stab in the body of this mad bull, even a small one, will have an impact and effect.

Will the Second International Conference of the International Center for resisting Imperialism, Zionism, Reactionism Racism, And Fascism be the beginning of the action to slaughter and bury the mad U.S. bull? This will be answered during the coming days by the battle of escalating the counterattack against imperialism, Zionism, racism, fascism and reactionism.

Al-Qadhdhafi Speaks on Imperialism

LD152000 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arabic Homeland in Arabic 1813 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Speech by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at the second conference of the International Platform for Resisting Imperialism, Zionism, Racism, Reaction, and Fascism in Tripoli — live on nationwide radio and television]

[Text] Brothers, I stand before you to extend greetings and to hail your tenacious will, which executed the great universal and international action on 28 August 1981. It was on this date that the people struggling for freedom and the living revolutionary forces throughout the world and in all its continents decided to hold a conference of solidarity with the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, who faced the threat of aggression. Our people are regarded as the vanguard of those who are struggling for freedom and as the victim of the forces of aggression who want to devour them first and then go on to devour other small nations struggling for freedom.

The event which took place in August 1981 has become an international movement. This movement has institutionalized the fight for freedom and the collective struggle against the enemies of freedom — imperialism, fascism, reaction, Zionism, and racism. This movement of solidarity has caused the imperialists to reconsider their calculations and to retreat from carrying out an aggression against the Libyan Arab people. As I asserted at that conference, the Libyan Arab people have displayed a firm resolve to resist aggression. I told you then that the United States would not be able to defeat the Libyan people, although it can annihilate them. If they die, then they will die standing up and not kneeling down. We have not violated this pledge. [applause and shouts in English of "Down, Down, U.S.A."]

However, the Americans regrettably turned to another small nation which was living in peace and security, and devoured it. I am referring to the people of Grenada. The occupation of Grenada was not prevented by the United Nations or the UN Security Council. There was no justification for such an action. When the imperialists see a weak people, they assassinate them and occupy their land. We cannot expect to see official resistance by governments against such aggression. We also do not expect justification for this aggression. Imperialist aggression takes place without justifications.

The occupation of Grenada, the removal of the revolutionary regime based on the new [word indistinct] movement, and the assassination of our dear brother and friend martyr Maurice Bishop [applause] has alarmed all small nations and caused them to live in terror. This is the result of the official terrorism which has become an established policy of the United States, Zionism, and racism. We cannot allow this incident to pass easily. It is an alarm bell for freedom everywhere and for the security and safety of peoples within their own borders.

Grenada, a country of 100,000 people, could in no way have constituted a threat to U.S. imperialism and its 200 million people. [chanting in English of "Down, Down U.S.A."] This event might initially be regarded as a victory for imperialism. However, it actually established a new international movement. All small nations which are the target of imperialism must unite. They will feel the (?strength) of unity in an international front against imperialism and [words indistinct].

Imperialism [chantings of slogans], imperialism may think it has triumphed in this sinful action. However, it has actually rallied those people who have sensed that their fate might be the same as that of the people of Grenada. They feel the need to unite in an international front to fight imperialism.

The conference held on 28 August 1981 to express solidarity with the Jamahiriyah's people also began a new chapter in the struggle of peoples for freedom everywhere in the world. That conference later turned to this collective work. Your preparatory committee convened on 21 February 1982 in order to get ready for an international conference that would undertake a collective struggle against imperialism, reaction, fascism, racism, and Zionism. [chantings of slogans]

Indeed, the founding conference was held on 15 June of that same year, 1982. It included the forces of peoples struggling for freedom and hostile to imperialism, racism, Zionism, fascism, and reaction. The second such conference of these forces is being convened today. New forces have joined us in this collective struggle and are now attending. These forces were not present at the first conference. We expect that other forces will attend the third, fourth, and any subsequent conferences [applause] in order to broaden the anti-imperialist front.

We welcome today the representatives of all Kurdish groups in the world [applause]; representatives of all the green [word indistinct] movements in the world [applause] representatives of all red Indian groups [applause] from North America, South America, and the surrounding islands [applause]; representatives of the blacks in the United States, Canada, South America, and Britain [applause]; representatives of fighting revolutionary movements in the French colonies in the world [applause]; vanguards of the international revolutionary committees movements from all parts of the world [applause); and the secretaries of internationalist basic people's congresses. [applause]

We are sorry to say we have received a report from the 19 April Movement in Colombia that our friend and comrade Alvaro Fayad, general commander of the 19 April Movement, was killed in a battle in the past 2 days. If this report is confirmed, and in any case, we have to stand up and salute him and we glorify him. [chants of "Long Live Al-Qadhdhafi"]

This will only make us more determined to continue the collective struggle and double our efforts in the fight against the fascists in Latin America — agents of imperialism and agents of the United states, the enemy of the peoples and the leader of international terrorism and the barbaric and savage administration which relies on nothing but the law of terrorism and the law of the jungle. It is suffering from the madness of force and holds the rights of man in contempt; it discriminates against human beings in everything, so much so that it places black citizens on a level lower than that of mankind.

The fascists will not enjoy contentment and they may be assured that if they killed our comrade Fayad, the fight against them will escalate. And we swear that we shall avenge him by killing not just one individual, but by killing fascism in Latin America. [applause and shouting of slogans]

As you see brothers, imperialism, fascism, Zionism, racism, and reaction — these enemies will not refrain of their own free will from assassinating the leaders of the masses and occupying the territories of others. [patriotic singing]

They will not be deterred willingly by themselves and they are bent on the physical liquidation of the leaders of the masses. They are determined to destroy freedom everywhere, to continue the unjust occupation of others' lands; they are totally reckless with the rights of small peoples to live on earth in peace and freedom. Imperialism and the forces allied with it constitute a serious threat to the lives of all of us as peoples wishing to live in peace and freedom on earth. Imperialism and its dirty lackey allies are determined to conquer peoples and to extend imperialist domination in all continents of the world. The lives of small peoples are indeed seriously threatened by the danger of imperialism. Zionism in palestine, racism in south Africa, fascism in Latin America, and reactionism in Arab countries and other parts of the world are nothing but the instruments of imperialism. [shouting of slogans]

With full feeling of responsibility and without excitement, we now say it is true that small peoples are threatened in their homes — their existence, and their security by imperialism and its allies. Brothers, at this international gathering which has brought together active forces from all continents of the world which have felt this threat and are united in this world internationalist front, I say that this danger which is threatening us — this strong threat from imperialism and its allies — forces us, in the context of self-defense, to defend our existence on earth and under the sun; forces us to create the internationalist front on the world level to confront this danger. Imperialism and its allies are the common enemy of all those struggling for freedom. I believe that you feel this sentiment in depth, sincerity, and seriousness; a matter which has promtped you to come here. [sounds of chanting]

Brothers, this danger makes it imperative for us to change this action into a world effective and militant force in order to confront this danger. The small nations are no longer confident of their existence because of this filthy alliance. Peaceful and ordinary human beings everywhere in the world are being chased by this evil which is hostile to mankind and which is fighting them for their food. This is seen in the economic warfare against Libya by imperialism, in the military blockade of Nicaragua, the armed and high-handed and unjustified invasion of Grenada, the constant threat against the nations of Latin America which are fighting for freedom, the constant threat against the Iranian revolution, and the killing and destitution of the Palestinian and Lebanese people [applause] the constant threat against the security of Syria, the constant threat against the stability and independence of Angola, Mozambique, and all the states which lie on the borders of South Africa. [applause] Denying the people of Namibia their independence and freedom on their soil, threatening all hopes for peace in the Mediterranean — the small peoples who live on the Mediterranean islands and the peoples of the Mediterranean countries have been trying to heal their wounds after World War II and to rebuild what was destroyed by the warring forces, so that trade and culture will revive and so that the economy will revive, and peace will be strengthened.

However, imperialism, its presence, policies, and aspirations, are completely contradictory with this hope and these wishes. Right now, U.S. fleets are making noise in the Mediterranean, trying to threaten this sea's peace and the security of this sea's peoples, and to transform it from a sea of trade, peace, culture, and stability into a sea of destruction and war and the destruction of all the peoples overlooking the Mediterranean and the small peoples who live on the Mediterranean islands. Even international detente, which mankind applauded, has not achieved anything as far as we small peoples, are concerned — nothing has been achieved. Perhaps sometimes it may seem to us that detente is at the expense of small peoples. Indeed, it would be frightening if a war were to take place between the nuclear superpowers. It has not taken place yet, but has war stopped on other people's territory? No not at all! Therefore, we, the small peoples reject any detente at our expense. We will not benefit from the absence of confrontation between the superpowers when the quid pro quo is to sacrifice the other peoples. [chanting of slogans]

There is no intention whatsoever to stop the Gulf war. The arms traders of the states that have been calling publically for stopping the war have been sending weapons to the fascist regime in Baghdad, a regime that is hostile to the Iraqi people and which has thrown the Iraqi Army in the couldron of this war, a war they do not want. The Iraqi Army is ready to engage in a war against Zionism and against imperialism. [shouts: "Down With Imperialism"]

The threat of war against the peoples of Latin America, the peoples of the Arab nation, and the peoples of Africa which border on South Africa has not ended. We cannot at all accept the assurance of peace between the major powers in return for sacrificing the small nations. [applause] The physical liquidation of our revolutionary leaders continues. The occupation of our territories continues. The chasing of our masses continues: the Palestinian people are hunted down with U.S. planes; the Lebanese people are hit by U.S. planes and ships; the Kurdish nation is torn up and the kurds are being persecuted and their villages razed. [applause]

The people in South Africa, the 20 million blacks who are the real owners of the land — they have been denied the right to exist, to be independent, and to enjoy their rights as human beings over their soil. They are being persecuted by a handful of white racists. This handful is supported by U.S. imperialism. The United States refused to impose any sanctions against racism in South Africa. Why? It is because racism in South Africa implements U.S. policy, which is barbaric and hostile to the blacks, and which regards the black race as being less than human. [applause]

Brothers [chanting], we have to convey [al-nunqil] the forces of collective struggle with our people in South Africa, who are being subjected to continued killings, without mercy, by a handful of white colonialists [words indistinct], who are supported [chanting], supported by the United States. [chanting] One of our forces that constitutes the internationalist front hostile to imperialism, racism, etc is the black people in South Africa, regarding whom I have addressed a message to African youth. African youth throughout Africa are prepared to volunteer so that we can fight racism in South Africa so that we can destroy it. [chanting]

We, the people struggling for freedom which constitute this internationalist front, categorically do not recognize any white in the southern part of the African Continent; South Africa belongs to Africa and Africa belongs to Africans; let them take their hands off Africa. [chanting] We do not recognize any white presence in the African Continent. We, at this gathering, must decide to fight side by side with our oppressed people in South Africa; we must decide to fight with our colonized people in Namibia; we must decide to fight collectively to liberate Grenada and destroy the symbols of U.S. imperialist installed there and return [chanting] the forces of the New Jewel Movement in Grenada. However small, the people of Grenada have the right to choose the system they want, and to live in freedom, dignity and security on their island. Brothers, we must all stand with the people of Nicaragua against the blatant insolent threat from the United States. [chanting]

Brothers, we should all stand by the people of Nicaragua against the blatant and harsh threats from the United States. [applause] We should strengthen Cuba's steadfastness in confronting U.S. imperialism. [applause] We should put our hand in the hand of our brothers, friends, and comrades, Castro and Ortega, and their comrades in Nicaragua and Cuba. [applause and shouting of slogans) We should also decide to fight alongside our comrades the revolutionaries of Central America and Latin America against fascism and reactionism which are supported by U.S. imperialism. [applause]

We must be ready to fight side by side with our Palestinian people, the victims of Zionism which is the puppet and base of the United States. [chanting of slogans lauding Palestine] Our people in Palestine are subjected to mass annihilation inside and outside Palestine. Mass prisons inside occupied Palestine are built by Zionism which is insolently supported by the United States with all the means of destruction. Mass prisons are built for all the active forces of our Palestinian people in the occupied territory. American aircraft, piloted by pilots of dual American and Israeli nationality, are hounding the Palestinian people outside Palestine in their camps in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and even in Tunisia. In addition, international Zionism assassinates Palestinian revolutionary leaders wherever they are. It kills them in their homes in Beirut, it assassinates them in Europe, and chases them everywhere.

The Nuremburg trials of Nazis accused of the mass annihilation of Jews defined mass assassination as genocide. This definition applies today, but the other way around, to what Zionism is doing to the Palestinian people because genocide is the mass killing of the members of a specific group, or making them homeless, or seizing their property, or attacking them physically or morally, or compelling them to follow a specific way of life which would lead to their extinction, or kidnapping their children. All of these definitions apply now to what Zionism is doing in Palestine against [words indistinct].

Sympathy for the Israelis will continue after they have become Nazis and have done to the Arabs what Hitler did to them. But the arrogant and the power-mad, the U.S. rulers and the other imperialist powers, or the agent-followers of the United States will not listen. However, those who do listen to this are — and we say it for their sake — the small peoples whose fate will be like the fate of the Palestinian people, as long as collective struggle on an internationalist front like this is not created for resistance against this common enemy.

The dynamic forces present here in front of me in the second conference of the forces struggling against imperialism, Zionism, racism, facism, and reaction will listen to these words. In addition to our Palestinian people, there is the Lebanese people on whom liquidation is now being visited by order of the United States to its instrument, Zionism in Palestine, by the destruction of the Middle East peoples around Palestine until a population imbalance occurs which enables Zionism to attract 25 million citizens from other countries who embrace Judaism and force them to live in the Middle East to enable the rise of a Zionist empire. And thus the United States gurantees its influence in the Middle East and the protection of its interests. The United States plans to seize the oil-fields in this region in the coming years by using the Israelis. The United States will sacrifice those who believe that they are its Arab friends when the opportunity comes for Zionism to take over the oil-fields and the reins of power which secure American interests in the Middle East [words indistinct]

We have to decide in this internationalist meeting to start collective struggle in its concrete form. We decided on it in principle and in theory in our first conference, and now we have to lay down the practical arrangements, we have to undertake collective struggle. Nobody can prevent us from undertaking collective struggle in any part of our homeland because we are a peace-loving people who want to live in security on their lands. On their own, that is, no people can face alone the attack of imperialism and its filthy alliance.

Therefore, in order to survive, for self-defence, and so as to secure victory, we are obliged to fight collectively. If we wage a collective struggle in South Africa, with SWAPO in Namibia, alongside the peoples of Angola, Mozambique, Botswana, and all the states threatened by South Africa's racism; with our Palestinian, Lebanese, Syrian, and Libyan peoples; in Nicaragua, Cuba, and with the peoples of Latin America, Central America and South America; with the people of Grenada — if we decide to undertake a collective struggle, we will inevitably triumph, and no one can ever protest such a method. This is our duty, our right, and we would be defending our existence.

No one in the world can prevent us from engaging in collective struggle against the common enemy; he who wants to protest the founding of the [words indistinct] of collective struggle and collective fighting against this alliance, then he would have to come and liquidate this alliance on our behalf, and we would not therefore be obliged to undertake collective struggle. [applause]

When aggression is committed against Grenada and the latter is occupied, and no one can retrieve Grenada's freedom, how then can anyone protest or offer advice on how Grenada should be recovered by collective struggle? Let the people of Grenada become the ally even of the devil in order to retrieve their freedom.

When the Libyan Jamahiriyah is threatened by U.S. fleets, in its own territory, and no one in the world, except this small force of our peoples which came and responded to this threat — and the Libyan people are asked to show restraint; when Angola is subjected to aggression and its territory is repeatedly invaded, and no one comes, except the Cuban forces, to fight alongside the Angolan people, and Angola is asked to show restrain while its territory is subjected to fighting and invasion; when the ports of Nicaragua are mined and a military and economic blockade is imposed on it, this country is asked to show restrain tso as to avoid a threat to world peace; Libya is asked to show restraint otherwise it would clash with the U.S. 6th Fleet and a world war would break out; Cuba, whose territory is partly occupied by the United States, is asked to show restrain and not to attack this base on its territory; when France and the United States enter into a collective colonialism against the collective struggle in Chad in order to colonize it and turn it into a base for joint French-U.S. imperialism, and the friends of Chad and even the Chadian revolution are asked to show restraint — well, in such cases what does restraint mean? It would mean capitulation to these enemies, with us surrendering our territories and necks, and they trampling our dignity under foot. All that for peace, stability, and for providing an opportunity for war. [sentence as heard]

What kind of peace and stability is this? Peace at the expense of our honor and at the expense of our independence? Never! We have to decide and they have to control themselves and remain inside their borders. The imperialists must remain inside their borders. As for us, we shall not control our temper and shall not control (?ourselves) in defending ourselves. [chanting]

Last January and February (?we had) a military confrontation with the United States opposite the Gulf of Sidra. The United States amassed more than (?200) aircraft on board. This amassing was carried out against the small Libyan people, and the whole world was watching, listening and [word indistinct] January and February. No one was able to stand against this huge fleet. These carriers made threatening sorties and during the two maneuvers there were 3,000 sorties in which more than 200 aircraft took part. Two of the carriers were carrying fighter planes and the third carrier was carrying helicopters. This fleet was composed of [word indistinct], destroyers, and warships and was supported by landing and supply ships, intelligence, and radio jamming. Libya, on its own, from the direct military point of view, stood against this barbaric imperialist campaign. The Libyan Air Force recorded more than 1,500 sorties over the Gulf of Sidra to confront these U.S. sorties. About 20 direct interception operations took place which (?nearly led to) fighting between the Libyan Air Force and the U.S. imperialist forces. Libya adopted a firm, declared, and courageous stance before the world. The 32.30 parallel, which is the beginning of the Gulf of Sidra is considered the line of death; we are actually prepared to die for it. The United States, during the past 2 months and despite all their air and naval attempts, did not succeed in getting close to this parallel because it is aware that this line is the line of death. I told you at the conference of solidarity and at the preparatory committee — the sentence I mentioned at the beginning of this speech — namely that the United States cannot defeat the Libyans, but can annihilate them with its atomic bombs and fleets. There is a difference between defeat and annihilation. [chanting of slogans]

At the time when this confrontation was still not at an end, French troops landed along the southern borders of Libya in Chad. The military reinforcements for the agents of America and France in Ndjamena have doubled. The reactionary alliance against the revolution in Iran continues. The Zionist onslalught against the Palestinian, Lebanese, and Syrian peoples continues. The United States' threats against the people of the DPRK and against the people of Nicaragua and the peoples of Central America and Latin America continues.

In this situation, self-control must be exercised. We should restrain ourselves. Suppose we did not exercise self-control and did not restrain ourselves, what would happen? War would break out, peace would collapse, trade would be threatened, and the lines of communication would be threatened in vital areas of the world. What would happen after this? The aggressors would lose and the capitalists would lose and the capitalist companies would lose the multinational companies which exploit us and which exhaust the resources of these nations, because the the airlines and the planes belong to these capitalist companies and countries. Their peace is at the expense of our nations. We do not enjoy peace, neither in America, Africa, nor Asia. The threat continues. The killing, imprisonment, and massacres in the Sabra and Shatila mass prisons in Palestine, massacres in South Africa — the threat continues against independent states, denying the right of the people of Namibia to independence, denying the right to independence to the people of New Caledonia and Martinique by French imperialism.

France wants to extend its borders to (?Reunion) and to Caledonia in the Pacific and to Martinique in the Atlantic. They talk about peace and they demand — or rather they believe that they have the right to — a (?permanent) seat at the Security Council. [applause] How can this aggressor, who is tampering with the world, be given a permanent seat at the Security Council and the right of veto? It should be expelled from the United Nations.

One of the serious matters which has frightened them is this meeting. This meeting of ours has frightened and terrorized these tyrants because it (?was) a precondition for this meeting — which must be approved as a result and a decision and a principle of this meeting — that these nations should reconsider these dynamic forces which will shape the future of the world, should reconsider the United Nations and its Charter and all its institutions because in the United Nations there are governments which are united against the nations. [sentence as heard] As for the nations, they are represented here and they are the ones which (?stand up) and confront the United States on Libyan soil and which are (?meeting) at this international conference. The UN Charter should be looked into again. It gives the right of veto against resolutions of all the states to a state which is a member of the Security Council and which enjoys this right of veto. We, as nations, do not accept this. We, as nations which represent the vast majority on earth, do not accept this hegemony and this haughtiness and arrogance. We will resist it with all our means until the will of the small nations triumphs.

If the Security Council is meant to be a place for permanent seats for the big powers, we do not object to these big powers which occupy the five seats forming a security council of their own. They can then veto one another and fight one another and America can use the veto against the other four. We shall not interfere in this. [applause and shouts in English "Down With the Veto"]

Yes, down with the veto. As for us, the nations which pay the price in all the wars and whose existence is threatened today, we are the fuel of the wars — the first and the second world wars. This land in which you are meeting, most of the battles in the Second World War were fought on it. Libya was not a member of the Allies or a member of the Axis. But the Axis and the Allies fought on Libyan soil. They destroyed our homes and they killed us; they killed our livestock and they planted mines in this soil — these mines are still here now. They hindered the building of roads and development. We paid a high price in a war which concerned the Allies and the Axis.

The people of Pland were raided by the German hordes unexpectedly and without justification, withour prior warning and without any offence having been committed by the Polish people. The armies invaded it [words indistinct] Poland (?was taken). They swept into Warsaw. Nothing of it remained except the word Warsaw engraved on a marble plaque. This small nation paid a costly price: 4,000 Nazi planes attacked it. All our nations have paid the price, and we are threatened once again. We are paying the price daily with our nerves because of this official terrorism which is being imposed on us by imperialism, facism, and racism.

The Syrians, the Lebanese, the Jordanians, and all the Arab peoples are threatened daily. They live under official terrorism which is imposed by Zionism with U.S. means. The African nations live under official terrorism. Every day they expect a barbaric raid by the racists of South Africa on their (?homes).

The Libyan people here live under the constant threat of the U.S. 6th Fleet. The peoples of Latin America and Central America are daily threatened. [words indistinct] Today we are paying the price with our security and stability and nerves.

In war, we shall pay the price with our lives, our blood, our homes and our property. I am saying this in order to reach a conclusion, namely, these peoples who are paying the price of the cold war and the hot war have the right to work out the guarantees for world peace because it concerns them, because they are victims. We are the instrument of peace; we (?want) to establish an internationalist security council and establish a true united nations and not [words indistinct]. [chanting]

We must threaten all governments to [word indistinct] the governments represented now at the present United Nations, at the Security Council. All these movements here in front of me can put strong pressure on these governments to formulate [tusigh] the United Nations to become what we, the active forces in the world, want. If these governments failed [words indistinct] our threat and resounding yell, we shall begin to establish a new intrernationalist organization which truly represents the peoples, which truly represents the peace-loving nations, which does not represent the imperialists and world (?police) who want to impose sanctions on us. The Security Council will face strong resistance from now on because it is a U.S. Security Council. This Council has broken down and will not, as it has in the past, be able to take any steps in the future in favor of any of the oppressed peoples and in favor of any of our issues which the United States does not agree with because at events like this the United States will use its right of veto and the Security Council resolutions will be scrapped. The United Nations General Assembly, which is supposed to to be where the United Nations meet, has no will of its own now, it is faced by the United States will. The U.S. representative at the Security Council scraps a resolution issued by the United Nations General Assembly. In this way, we, the small peoples and the strugglers for freedom have no confidence as of now in the United Nations General Assembly in its present form. We do not consider the Security Council to be an international Security Council but a U.S. Security Council, decayed by the U.S. will and a hinderance to the will of the Arab peoples. Consequently, we have the right to establish a truly international internationalist organization that will protect peace. We can muster enough forces to enable us to send [it] to any part of the world to keep peace and to prevent any war.

The UN force now is only used to protect the Israelis. Where are the UN forces at the moment? They are between Egypt and occupied Palestine so that the Egyptian people are not able to fight, even to regain the Gaza Strip which is part of Egypt. They are between Lebanon and Palestine so that the Palestinians and the Lebanese are not able to fight against Zionism. They are now present in the Golan to prevent Syria from regaining a part of its occupied territories. UN forces are now present in other parts of the world to affirm the imperialist, the racist, and the Zionist presence.

In the shadow of the UN forces, Patrice Lumumba was physically liquidated so that the Congo could become what it is — the Congo and Zaire have become a region for U.S. and Israeli imperialist influence. Now they have carried out collective colonialism — Khrushchev used this term. I am not the first to use collective colonialism. This term entered the political lexicon in the sixties. The forces that are hostile to peace, socialism, and freedom represented collective colonialism, when every power on its own failed to keep its colonies. In fact, this collective colonialism has returned as Chad is now witnessing collective colonialism. French-U.S. colonialism is in Ndjamena, and with them are fascist and reactionary forces. Our organization has basically been established to combat them. Palestine is also witnessing collective colonialism; Lebanon is bombed by U.S. and Israeli planes and shelled by U.S. and Israeli ships. Collective colonialisn has returned: racism in South Africa is supported by Zionism and the United States. Look at the alliance bewteen these forces; they are fighting collectively, therefore we should fight them collectively, or otherwise they will defeat us one by one. This matter is very serious since it concerns the existence of our people. [applause]

Collective struggle should be in our charters, among our priciples. It should be among the natural rights of people and masses everywhere. Collective struggle is the right of people to organize themselves in a collective struggle for freedom and to fight imperialism, Zionism, racism, reactionism, and fascism all over the world, irrespective of boundaries. Red Indians, blacks, the yellow race — all the oppressed and all those fighting in the name of freedom should organize themselves in collective struggle without borders and without descrimination on the basis of sex, color, or geography. Our existence is threatened by a collective colonialism. In return, we should declare the rights of the Jamahiri human being, a human being who should live in the time of the masses, a human being who likes to live free and happy and liberated from all pressures and shackles. We should declare that every human being has a right to fight the tools of of government, as all instruments of government have shown that they do not represent the people.

Instruments of government in Western Europe do not represent the people of Western Europe. As proof of this we have with us here alternative movements, alternatives to the existing regimes in Western Europe because these regimes submit to the United States, these regimes agree with the U.S. on measures that are so dangerous that they might threaten the security of the people of Western Europe, measures on deploying medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe. This means that during any future war the first nuclear strikes will be directed toward Western Europe in order to destroy these missiles immediately, before military operations develop into a third world war. [sentence as heard] The alternative movements, the Greens, realized this danger, and they staged demonstrations to protest the deployment of U.S. missiles in Western Europe. This is because it is not in the interest of Western Europe to accept the deployment of these missiles, as this entails the destruction of the peoples of this region during a nuclear war. But the forces of tyranny fought this angry movement, trampling upon it with the hoofs of horses and pouring boiling water over it.

Every day, satellites and television bring to us pictures of acts of repression against the masses in Western Europe, the masses that reject U.S. hegemony and dominiation. We are going to enter into an alliance; this front includes, among others, the peoples of Western Europe, the dynamic forces in Western Europe, the alternative movements in Western Europe, the Greens, the new Green movement in Western Europe, which is an extension of us. [applause] This front will include all these forces so that we may fight with them against the U.S. presence in Western Europe. These masses will be able to undermine the U.S. military bases in Western Europe, because these masses, burnt by the flames of World War I and World War II, do not want to enter into the inferno of a third world war.

The presence of U.S. military bases and U.S. missiles in Western Europe threatens these people with a destruction yet more horrendous than World War II, because in World War II nuclear weapons were not used [as heard] but most likely they would be used in a third world war. Therefore, in order to survive, these people will fight to undermine the U.S. military bases. We will support them and extent to them all the possibilities to undermine imperialist bases in Western Europe.

We must declare that everyone has the right to resist this power by using similar means. Everyone has the right to resist representation, instruments of power, and deputation. These are natural rights for all men. Every man has the right to transcend representation, instrumentality or deputation in lieu of himself, and to come forward and determine his own destiny. [applause] Every man has right to self-rule; no one should impose on you a mandate council, a council of representatives, or a government. Every man has the right to self-rule, and to resist any domination or interference in his own will. Every man has the right to express what he wants in a way suitable to himself. Every man has the right to gain knowledge in a way suitable to himself, and governments, instruments of power, and imperialism must not force us to learn what they want. As in the case of a ruling family which wants to teach the people it rules the history of this family, the favors of this family — this is dictatorship, oppression.

The people have the right to learn; it is not necessary for them to learn the history of the Hashemite family. Let their own sons learn it, the sons of the Hashemite family; let its history be taught to its own sons. [applause]

Everybody should have the right to a suitable job. (?We must say) no if the opportunity to work is taken away from us and if we are compelled to do a job that the forces of exploitation want. Every human being should be entitled to the fruits of his own production. We are all forbidden to access our own production: the producer is not entitled to his own fruitful production. You work, but your production is taken away by the forces of exploitation. We must declare that the revolution is a natural, necessary, and an important duty. We must declare a ban on the hiring of human beings. Humans are hired everywhere as if they were a camel, a cow, or a vehicle. One of the worst phenomenons of this era is the hiring of a man; a human being is being hired; he is a wage-earner of the employer, a wage-earner of the land owner, a wage-earner of the landlord, and a wage-earner of the authority. We must reject the hiring of human beings. We are the new force which will make the future of the world — the world of the jamahir; a world free from oppression and exploitation; a world of happiness, freedom and emancipation; a world with no governments, no parties, no social classes, no strata, no regular armies or police. [chants]

A house, a vehicle, and goods are the sacred right of every human being. No one should be allowed to dominate (?property) or own it. A house should be owned by its occupier; your own clothes should be your own property. [words indistinct] The wealth of any country should be equally devided between its citizens, with no distinction. Millions of Americans are deprived of the wealth of their country because the wealth of the United States is not devided equally between the Americans. The United States' wealth is the monopoly of the capitalist forces, which is just a minority of the people. Tens of thousands of Americans live in the open, with no lodging or home in the U.S. capital. Are the blacks not citizens of the United States? Yes, they are!

Sixty percent of back youth in the United States are unemployed; they have no work opportunity — 60 percent, in comparison with only 15 percent of the whites who are unemployed. Of course, 15 percent is a large percentage, but small in comparison with the 60 percent unemployed blacks. At the same time, we find 400,000 or more blacks conscripted into the U.S. Army — this constitutes 20 percent of [words indistinct] of blacks.

I extended an invitation when the Ummat al-Islam convened its conference in Chicago and I addressed them via satellite. I asked the 400,000 blacks in the U.S. Army to mutiny and leave military services. Yes, there are blacks in the U.S. Army and police [words indistinct] this imperialist institution and smuggle their weapons and military gear out and to destroy this barbaric and antipeople military machinery, to destroy it from inside. U.S. blacks should continue to call, covertly and openly, upon their brothers in the military institutions and the U.S. police to escape from these institutions, destroy them from inside, and smuggle their weapons out. From now on, we shall all address calls to our brothers the blacks in the United States. [chanting]

The white U.S. citizen's income is around $17,000 per annum, while the blavk U.S. citizen's income is $9,000. If they are both U.S. citizens then why hasn't the United States provided for equal distribution? This is because the whites consider blacks to be nonhuman and noncitizens. Look at this humane society which is called North America. It distinguishes between human beings: This one is black and nonhuman; that one is white and human. Then, when we come to the whites, we find that the exploiting whites exploit the poor whites, and, consequently, we find that 15 percent of the whites are unemployed — but we find that 60 percent of blacks are unemployed.

There are around 5 million blacks in Britain. I was in Britain in 1966 and made a study of their conditions. I studied their situation and found the dirty jobs were assigned to those black Africans in Britain; dirty jobs and extremely low wages for these dirty jobs, without any social security. They are the ones who carry coal and load trucks with coal; they sweep the underground [preceding word in English] tunnels. [applause] They sweep the cafes of the Britons, and every dirty job is given to blacks in Britain.

In fact, the blacks constitute a terrible force that can shake Britain — millions. Fortunately, they are members of this front, and from now on [applause] they will get their rights. [loud applause]

Imagine, the United Nations had long ago defined racial discrimination: racial discrimination is denial of human rights, fundamental rights, and justice; it is a crime against mankind and a heavy obstacle in the face of economic and social development; it is an impediment to international cooperation and peace. Look at this explanation of racial discrimination. And despite this, the United States supports the racist regime in South Africa which commits all these crimes; the U.S. imposes a blockade on Nicaragua, Libya, and Democratic Korea. It fights the Iranian revolution and the revolution in Latin America. [words indistinct].

(?We have heard, for example, from representatives of) the Philippine people who are persecuted because they believe in a religion that is not the religion of the government. [applause] This group is attacked when they perform their religious rites, and oppression against them [words indistinct] they plan and it may have significance and entail danger.

The new president of the Philippines said that the government is a revolutionary one. If the new government is revolutionary, then we shall applaud, welcome, and extend our hand to it. If it is truly revolutionary, it must, first, demolish the U.S. bases. [applause] Then it would be free of U.S. influence — the Philippines would not be under the U.S. sphere of influence. Second, if this is truly a revolutionary government, it must erase oppression and grant rights to the religious group whose representatives are here, a group which has been oppressed — mass genocide was committed against them under the previous Philippine government. [applause] Otherwise, the struggle will continue. [applause]

There are representatives of various groups of the Kurdish nation with us. This is a divided, oppressed, and tormented nation, whose neighbors deny it its right of unity and independence. We cannot ignore the state of this helpless nation. We must declare wherever we may be in the world, and we cover all the continents, the right of the Kurdish nation to unity and independence. [applause]

We have with us representatives of another dismembered, persecuted and wiped out nation. The United States is the criminal. The representatives are from the red Indian nation. [applause] This nation has a population of well over 80 million spread out between North and South America and the ocean islands.

We, the peoples of the small nations which are fighting (?in the name) of freedom and which are hostile to colonialism, have to carry another slogan in addition to that of the Kurdish nation — the slogan of the right of the red Indian nation to unity and independence, and to be able to live in the land of its forefathers in the United States of America in dignity and glory. [applause] This nation, when it becomes independent and united along with the Kurdish nation and the rest of the persecuted and dismembered nations, will be creating a new world of nations which used to be colonized and exploited and persecuted, and which appreciates the value of freedom and peace and the value of justice. These nations, if united and indepedent, will be the ones that will create the new world — the world of freedom, peace, and happiness.

As for the world in which we live today, it is a world which was created by the powerful who triumphed in World War II. They are the ones who drew the map of today's world. They are the ones who arranged the peoples and nations in the way they chose. They dismembered nations and dismembered peoples. They divided territories which were one to suit their colonialist interests. They are the ones who left racism in South Africa and Zionism in Palestine. They are the ones who created the problems over which the Third World states — former colonies — have been fighting, over borders that these colonialists created.

Therefore, the world in which we live today is created by imperialism through military force. As for the world which we will be creating, it is going to be the world of the colonized and persecuted peoples who cherish freedom, love peace, and want to live in happiness, and would appreciate these values and consequently safeguard them. They are the ones who are qualified to create international security arrangements for safguarding world peace. Peace cannot be left to a reckless power like the United States, which has a permanent seat and the right of veto at the Security Council, and which sends her fleets to terrify us in our own homes and set up military and nuclear bases throughout the world. How can we leave the task of peace and security in the world to such a satanic power. Indeed, it should be destroyed, and we should fight it [applause] and undermine its bases. [applause]

A new force had been added as a result of the unjust U.S. confrontation against the people of the Jamahiriyah. During this confrontation people's congress of all nationalities that exist on Libyan soil were held in the territory of the Jamahiriyah. [chanting] Congresses of all nationalities that exist on Libyan soil were held, and basic people's congresses were formed, and they announced the formation of an internationalist anti-imperialist front which, subsequently, joined this conference. Thus, a new force has been added to the forces which attended the first conference, and the internationalist international Zionism, racism, fascism, and reaction people's front was enlarged. It now includes all peoples of the world, and no one can prevent these masses from determining their destiny and creating a popular front, and [words indistinct] and form people's congresses, people's committees and revolutionary committees everywhere in the world. The struggle is between the masses and those who are enslaving them — their conquerors, their exploiters. The masses will not hesitate to strike blows against the instruments of power and forces of tyranny and exploitation everywhere in the world so that the masses will triumph. Brothers, this gathering is the foundation stone of the era of the masses. There is another force: revolutionary forces, covert and overt, all over the world, and covert and overt people's congresses all over the world, which constitute the rear of this gathering, an extension of it and [words indistinct] of this gathering. There are people's congresses on all the world's continents; there are revolutionary committees on all the world's continents. The era of the masses is being propagated; the era of peoples devoid of governments, armies, police and all forces of tyranny and exploitation in the land of the Jamahiriyahs. [chanting] Yes, power must be for the masses; people's power must be established. This cry, power to the masses, power to the people, now exists everywhere in the world. True and lasting peace cannot be achieved without the establisnment of jamahiriyahs everywhere in the world, because peoples like each other. [chanting]

Brothers, I wish you success in this great international encounter which brings together all the movements fighting for freedom, all the peace movements in the world [words indistinct] from imperialism, fascism, reaction, racism, and Zionism, the enemies of mankind. These masses, these peoples, these movements, want to turn the Mediterranean into a lake of peace, and want to bring about cooperation and fraternity between Europe, Africa, and the Arab world through the Mediterranean which must be free of foreign fleets, foreign bases, and nuclear missiles. This force wants the black nations to take its rightful place on earth; and likewise for the red Indian nation, and the fragmented Kurdish nation.

These forces want to achieve genuine peace; they want to see the efforts of mankind come together to vanquish nature, to exploit nature, and to resolve man's economic problems. These forces want the destruction of all the forces hostile to development, to prosperity, to progress currently embodied by imperialism, capitalism, facism, reaction, racism, and Zionism. If these enemies persist on earth, mankind will not be able to live in peace and reassurance; freedom will not be able to triumph and prosper, and man's evil forces, these allied forces that are fighting us collectively, continue to exist.

We can defeat them if we fight collectively. Hence, we must decide the principle of collective struggle and collective combat in order to vanquish these forces. The revolutionary struggle continues! Forward! [applause, shouting of slogans and chants].

Delegates to Conference Comment

LD172229 Tripoli JANA in English 1750 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Tripoli, Rajab 6, March 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The delegate of the alternative movements in Spain lauds the speech given by the leader of the revolution in that, he adds, it calls for what they are interested in, viz., elimination of imperialism and the like.

He continues that efforts should be orchestrated vis-a-vis United Nations calling for placing pressure on it to abolish veto at U.N. Security Council so as to make equal all the peoples and nations worldwide.

He accuses U.S. Administration of attempting to put an end to peace and security in the Mediterranean Sea region, condemning its provocations and demanding that it withdraw all its military fleets from there.

Louis Farrakhan, the American Black Muslim leader, says that all U.S. citizens who have come to this conference are threatened to be sentenced to ten-year imprisonment in U.S.A., adding that they don't recognise the right of Reagan legally, morally and also according to the God-given law.

He adds that he as a Muslim reserves his right to travel anywhere to stand by the side of Muslims who are fighting to eliminate imperialism and terrorism.

He pointed out that there are now 30 million Black Muslims in America besides the Indians there who number around 90 millions who have laid down a strategy against imperialism and racism side by side with the vital forces in the world at large.

He demands that Reagan stop interfering in Africa, Latin America and Nicaragua, calling for standing by the Palestinian people who are striving to redeem their homeland — Palestine.

Farrakhan reiterates that they are not terrorist because they are struggling to undermine imperialism and racism, stressing that the pledges of the real freedom-fighters are the only ones that will bring about victory over imperialism and neo-colonialism.

The delegate of the Palestine Liberation Organization says force has been used to terrorise the peoples of the region who oppose U.S. hegemony schemes, especially against the Jamahiriyah that is subjected to U.S. provocations.

He points out that without U.S. support and backing the Zionist entity will be unable to exercise its blind racism to fulfill Zionist ambitions to occupy Palestinian and Arab lands.

He condemns the savage attempts made so far to impose the U.S.-Zionist scheme with a view to liquidate the Palestinian question through intimidation and persuasion, pointing out that it is regrettable that such schemes are dealt with by Arab reaction and right-wing deviated Palestinians. Such quarters have either forgotten or bypassed the fact that U.S. imperialism can't act as a mediator in our conflict with Zionism, simply because such imperialism is a basic quarter in this conflict, let alone being biased totally to the Zionist enemy.

He also points out the capitulatory direction pursued by 'Arafat through his welcoming of the visit made by traitor al-Sadat to occupied al-Quds and bringing about reconciliation with the enemy.

The delegate of Malta Labour Party says that it is high time the military bases were eliminated in the world in general and in the Mediterranean Sea basin in particular.

He continues that imperialism is behind the diaspora of the Palestinians, displaced from its own homeland.

He draws the attention of delegates at the conference to the question of Cyprus, calling on them to stand for its unity and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from there.

He expresses his pleasure to be present at conference so as to have the chance to meet all those who struggle against imperialism whose delegates have come here and assembled on the soil of the great Al Fatah revolution — on the soil that has learnt and experienced a lot and has fulfilled the dream cherished by mankind, vis., liberation and emancipation.

He also says that they salute the leader of the revolution and his people for their hospitality.

The delegate of the alternative movements in Italy in his speech says that they should condemn the stand assumed by Reagan, stressing that there should be a real solidarity among those present at the conference. This solidarity, he calls on them, should be transformed to a collelctive struggle waged by all wronged peoples and nations worldwide, forming a unified front against imperialism and neo-colonialism.

Shaykh Ben Oumar in his speech stresses that unlike what imeprialists and reactionary historians allege Chad is no creation of French Colonialism. It had an economic, social, cultural and political regular presence before the imperialist invasion in the nineteenth century.

He adds this Chadian state was of the Islamic religion when Arabic was used in all social and family life, but the French imperialist administration started to undermine the components of the cultural character of the Chadian people through organizing blood massacres against scholars men of God and through the closing of schools and burning of books and implanting instead French culture in all walks of life.

Thus, he continues, the Chadian people have been subjected to more than a century to French imperialism and to more than 20 years of civil war started by France, U.S.A. and their allies, let alone the arrogance of racists in Africa and Israel.

He has also recounted the atrocities committed in Chad at the hands of France to subjugate the Chadian people.

He has also mentioned the national liberation front under the leadership of Ibrahim Ibsha in 1966 which was an epoch-making in the history of the struggle of his people against the French invaders, pointing out that the masses realized then their responsibilities and started to shoulder it. [sentence as received]

The escalation of the Chadian national struggle notwithstanding, French military intervention took place in 69/1970 to attempt to rescue whatever was left of their dictatorial rule there. Furthermore, the French made every endeavour to undermine the Chadian national movements from within through recruiting some nationals to serve its interests and infilitrate the front such as Habre and Hussan Sadiq. Also, tribal ideological and political conflicts erupted, and as a consequence, the bases on which Chadian patriotic movements was laid down were shaken. One of such outcomes came into being in 1970 when puppet Habre with French support launched massacre operations against Chadian citizens under pretext of preserving peace.

He concludes that since Islam is a religion that exhorts people to be tolerant, and because of the danger of civil war that has come to threaten our people represented by the imperialist conspiracies and manoeuvres, an agreement has been concluded by all concerned and conflicting quarters in Chad to achieve peace and security.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Burkina Faso Official, Letter

LD171009 Tripoli JANA in English 0948 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 6, March 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution received yesterday the secretary general of the Revolution Defence Committees and member of Revolution Command Council of Jamahiriyah of Burkina Faso who is heading the delegation of his country to the second international conference of the international centre for combatting imperialism, Zionism, racism, fascism and reaction which started its sessions Saturday afternoon.

The secretary general of R.D.C. of Burkina Faso handed to the leader a written letter from Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Revolutionary Council of the Jamahiriyah of Burkina Faso.

MAURITANIA

President Ould Taya Returns From Cape Verde

AB170805 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The domestic news today is marked by the visit of the head of state to Cape Verde. The president returned to Nouakchott yesterday at the end of this visit, and on his arrival Colonel Maaouiya Sid 'Ahmed Ould Taya affirmed that this visit enabled him and his counterpart, Aristides Pereira, to review their bilateral cooperation and also to seek ways and means to strengthen it in all areas.

During this official visit by the head of state to Cape Verde,the two statesmen discussed African and Arab issues, as well as those of common interest.

MOROCCO

Lamrani Ill, Laraki Named Acting Prime Minister

LD142028 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpt] His Majesty has announced that he has decided to appoint Dr Azzedine Laraki, Minister of National Education, as acting prime minister due to the health of Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani, who requires treatment and rest.

His Majesty the king siezed the opportunity to laud Mohamed Karim Lamrani for his loyalty and honesty and for his deeds as prime minister. His Majesty wished Mr Lamrani a quick recovery so that he will be able to resume and follow up his task in the service of the homeland.

His Majesty lauded the moral and humanitarian attributes and the efficiency of Dr Azzedine Laraki in his governmental posts, giving him instructions and valuable advice within the framework of his new tasks.

SUDAN

SPLM-National Alliance Talks To Begin 18 Mar
JN181124 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 18 Mar (SUNA) — Citing its correspondent in Addis Ababa, the newspaper *AL-AYYAM* says that [words indistinct] the meetings between representatives of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement [SPLM] and the National Alliance will begin in the city of Nasit, in the Equatoria Region, this evening, Tuesday.

The agenda of the opening session, which has been delayed for 3 days because Colonel John Garang was not in Addis Ababa, *AL-AYYAM* says, includes two speeches by representatives of the SPLM and the National Alliance. Later, subcommittees will be formed to represent the two sides in the expanded dialogue which will be held between them directly.

Trial of May 1969 Coupists Postponed
JN151908 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 15 Mar (SUNA) — The trial of the May 1969 coupists, which was scheduled to be held tomorrow morning, has been postponed until a later date. This decision was made after Judge 'Abd al-Rahman 'Abduh excused himself from presiding over the trial for personal reasons. The judge explained that he excused himself from presiding over the trial for health reasons. He said that he could not coordinate presiding over a new trial with the judicial arts required to evaluate and pass judgment on the case of the evacuation of the Falashas to Israel which is supposed to be announced on 5 April.

Defense Minister Comments on Visit to Libya
JN171105 Khartoum SUNA in English 1020 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 17 (SUNA) — The Defence Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah denied that his recent visit to Libya will affect negatively Sudan relations with other countries.

Who declines to support us has no right to refuse our acception of assistances from the countries which we know its keeness for our country's interests, 'Abdallah said.

The Sudanese people who have freed their will after the April 6 uprising, will search for friends and not masters, he added in statement to the daily *AL-SAHAFAH* in its today's issue.

My visit to Libya came for complementing the support which have been agreed upon last July in Tripoli and our views are identical on security issues which concerned the area as general and the two sister countries in particular, 'Abdallah explained, denying any link of his visit with the recent military escalation in southern Sudan.

The defence minister described as baseless reports which broadcasted by Garang's radio that his troops defeated a unit of the People's Armed Forces in Jonglei southern Sudan explaining that such rumors came as an attempt to strengthen Garang's stand in his current negotiations with a delegation from the National Alliance for the Salvation of the Country in Ethiopia.

Libyan Offer To Improve Ethiopia-Sudan Ties Reported
JN171505 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Mar (SUNA) — Prime Minister Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah has said that Libya is currently holding contacts with Ethiopia in regard to its relations with Sudan. He indicated that Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi informed him of this when he met him during his visit to Libya last week. He said that Al-Qadhdhaf promised to carry out good offices' efforts with Ethiopia until an accord is reached and Sudanese-Ethiopian relations improve.

This came during Al-Jazuli's meeting with the heads of media and press organs this morning. Regarding the impact of his visit to Libya on the military situation in the south, Al-Jazuli said that he did not touch on military details. However, Libya affirmed its stand in supporting Sudan and in extending assistance to it until it overcomes its difficulties.

Citizens Warned Against Carrying Any Weapons
JN171121 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 17 (SUNA) — Citizens in the national capital were strictly warned from carrying any kind of weapon knife sticks and the like a statement issued by the national capital commissioner Gen (Police) Kamal Bashir said.

Anyone who contradicts the order by possessing and kind of wepaon in a public place, a meeting or a gathering will have to face trial, the strong worded statement said.

This measure and others were taken as a precaution against any incident that might take place in the upcoming general elections.

Law Graduates Continue Hunger Strike 17 March
JN171040 Khartoum SUNA in English 1015 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 17 (INA) — An open hunger strike by law graduates is still going on for the consecutive seventh day despite the mediation led by Bar Association and other prominent politicians to end the strike.

More than 180 strikers were taken to hospital for medical treatment, a reliable source at the graduates executive committee told SUNA.

Meanwhile, the Bar Association reorganization council is due to hold a meeting within the coming two days to discuss the positive outcome which resulted from its mediation.

The graduates at the jurist training centere started their open hunger-strike last Sunday demanding Cancellation of Bar

Examination.

Article Says South Victim of Superpower Crusade

JN151222 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1044 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Mar (SUNA) — Muhammad al-Hasan Ahmad, political commentator for the newspaper *AL-SAHAFAH*, says in his weekly article today that East and West are in league against Sudan and that both are leading a crusade whose instruments are the rebels in southern Sudan under the command of Colonel John Garang.

The political commentator says that several war developments in the south led him to this conclusion. These developments, he adds, are the long-range guns which the rebels aim at the Sudanese Armed Forces from inside Ethiopian territory and the rebel activities in the south, especially in the Yerol Region where planes transport rebel troops, supplies, arms, and ammunition. This means, the commentator says, that major powers support the rebels, supply them with all their needs, and spend money on them without any limit. Otherwise, the commentator asks, where did they get all these supplies and how did they increase their strength to 40,000 so quickly? The commentator reaches the conclusion that the rebels are backed by Ethiopia, Cuba, the USSR, and others.

The commentator asks: Why is the West, led by the United States, supporting people who are also backed by the USSR? The commentator says: The answer is very complicated, but it can be viewed as follows. First, the United States is very slow in fulfilling its military obligations to the Sudan. In fact, it is reluctant to hand aircraft it once promised to Sudan on the pretext that this type of aircraft is out of production. Second, several planes have been sent to the United States for maintenance, but they have not been returned to Sudan although the maintenance period is over. Third, all arms promises have been followed by polite excuses until it has become obvious that the U.S. Administration cannot fulfill these promises because of pressure from Congress, which feels that Sudan might use these weapons against Christians in the south.

The political commentator adds: What is said about the United States can also be said about Britain, which has also refused to do maintenance work on planes and has failed to honor its armament obligations. The British Government uses the same excuses, saying that the British Parliament refuses to supply the Sudanese Armed Forces with weapons which could be used against Christians in the south. The same can also be said about France which, in addition to making similar excuses, is helping the rebels provided they do not destroy the Jonglei Canal bulldozers.

The political commentary affirms that a great deal of support reaches the Garang forces from church groups and Israel. The commentary blames the Arab states which, he says, are either indifferent or only fulfill part of their promises of aid, or simply give verbal support, despite the fact that arms requested by Sudan are stockpiled in their arsenals. He says: Perhaps some of these states fear that the dispatch of these arms will conflict with the deals under which they bought these arms from the big powers.

The commentator excludes Kin gHusayn of Jordan who, he says, referred in his speech to the Arab Parliamentary Union 2 days ago to the dangers facing the Arab nation as a result of the war in southern Sudan. The commentator says that despite his meager resources, King Husayn has continued to send all kinds of aid to Sudan. Hb taht Siwar al-Dhahab, chairmano Transitional Military Council, contacted King Husayn 2 days ago express his thanks and jppreciation for this aid.

The political commentator descibes the situation faced by Sudan as very serious. The commentator concludes by saying that the whole question falls within the framework of an international strategy to destroy regional unity, which is a very serious thing, then undermine inherited beliefs, and finally reach a satisfactory international division [of Sudan] involving the two superpowers, the United States and Russia, and Israel, cf course.

SPLA: TWO Government Garrisons Fall to SPLA Forces

EA171603 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Details of the fall of (Poptap) and (Longo) Bucket Wheel enemy garrisons have come in. According to our correspondent at the frontline, before the fall of (Poptap) and Bucket Wheel, the enemy had sent a strong reinforcenemt of one battalion from Malakal to (Payot), and from there to rescue the long-besieged hungry and thirsty garrisons of (Poptap) and of Bucket Wheel at (longo). The reinforcement was ambushed, destroyed and dispersed by Zindiyyah, Lion and Hippo battalions under the command of Captain Son Agot at (Kwach Deng) between (Ayot) and (Bifa Biet) and (Poptap) and Bucket Wheel garrisons.

The defeat of the enemy reinforcement at (Kwach) meant the fall of (poptap) and (longo) Bucket Wheel garrsions. After the Fiasco between (Ayot) and (Bufa Biet), Captain Son Agot at (Poptap) agreed with the enemy commander at (Poptap) for them to withdraw without being attacked by SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] forces. And this was done as agreed. At the same time Captain John Mal Dot also coordinated with the enemy commander at Bucket Wheel garrison near (Longo) to provide them with free passage to withdraw. This was guaranteed.

The Bucket Wheel garrison withdrew to (Poptap) and both forces of (Poptap) and Bucket Wheel completed withdrawal from (Poptap) under SPLA permission and protection on 13th and 14th of March 1986. The enemy left behind the following: One 6-wheel magirus truck, number 25286. It is off-road but can be repaired, one Toyota pick-up number RGC 353, also off-road, but repairable. One APC, number 9795, also off-road and repairable. A good number of 82-mm mortar shells in an unusable condition.

It is worth mentioning that there was a prolonged siege and shelling in both (Poptap) and Bucket Wheel garrisons by SPLA forces which exhausted the enemy forces and forced them to withdraw. Unfortunately, according to our correspondent, the enemy garrisons at both (Poptap) and (Longo) Bucket Wheel garrisons had broken into CCI [Compagnie de construction Internationale] stores, took what they needed and destroyed most of what they could not take. This was not part of our agreement, the correspondent added.

As for the bucket wheel excavator itself, the enemy made only superficial damage. SPLA forces are now in full control of both (Poptap) and Bucket Wheel excatavor. The spokesman for the SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese people's Liberation movement] political-military high command was invited those concerned, the CCI and the Egyptian Irrigation Department, to coordinate with the SPLA general headquarters or SPLA external coordinating officers to come to the sites of (Poptap) and Bucket Wheel, if Sudan Government allows them, to check their stores, and especially the bucket wheel excavator, which they can repair, grease and leave under protection of the SPLA.

The spokeaman further stressed that the leadership of the SPLA-SPLM is aware of the importance of the Jonglei Canal to both Egypt and Sudan and of the bucket wheel, adding that any further damage to it would eefinitely not come from the SPLA but from the Tranitional Military Council and their allies.

SPLA: Army Mutiny Closes Juba Airport; 65 Killed

EA171552 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Radio SPLA sources in Juba report that commercial lorries are being commandeered in Juba to transport troops from Juba to Yirol and Rumbek to execute the Transitional Military Council's misguided decision to attempt by all means to recover Rumbek and Yirol. Commenting on this information, the spokesman for the SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese peoples Liberation movement] political-military high command maintained that SPLA is ready to repulse any such foolish attempts and to take the war even beyond, including to Khartoum itself. The transitional Military council should not give orders in their air-conditioned offices and houses when they do not know what the actual situation is like, the spokesman added. Meanwhile, the same SPLA sources in Juba have confirmed that troops in Juba that were under transfer to the north mutinied when they were ordered to go to Rumbek instead. They captured Juba airport and ordered a Transarabian airliner that brought them ammunition to take them to Khartoum. According to the sources, clashes broke out when authorities insisted to take the soldiers to the frontline. Sixty-five men, including the commander of the mutineers and his deputy, were captured and killed. As a result Juba airport has been closed indefinitely. The commander-in-Chief of the SPLA, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior, has appealed to all the government forces in war zone 1 [southern Sudan] to continue the mutinies and above all to involve themselves in the formation of a new sudan by forming their own al-tajammu [alliance] and a joint command with the SPLA.

SPLA: Forces Capture Government Garrison

EA151700 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Reports just received from Jonglei Province say the SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] Forces have captured (Poptap) army garrison along the Jonglei Canal. The details of the fighting which resulted into the capture of the garrison will be brought to you as soon as they are available.

Equipment Captured

EA160012 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] The following important news has just come in: SPLA forces captured, today, Saturday 15 March 1986, the site of the giant excavator known as the bucket wheel on the half-finished Jonglei canal. The bucket wheel itself is now under the full control and protection of the SPLA.

Following the seizure of the bucket wheel, the official spokesman for the SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] Military High Command announced that any damage that may occur to the excavator will be entirely the responsibility of the Transitional Military Council.

Eritrean Army Official Injured in Car Accident

JN171109 Khartoum SUNA in English 1023 GMT Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 17 (SUNA) — Leader of the Eritrean People Liberation Army 'Uthman Salih Sibi has been seriously injured and his wife was killed in a car accident last Saturday in the eastern city of Gaddarif, it was reported here today.

SIBI, who was on his way to Khartoum, is now hospitalized in the Kassala eastern Sudan.

Mrs Sibi died in hospital the day of the accident.

Eritrean Council Official Refutes Ayyub Remarks

JN171047 Khartoum SUNA in English 1018 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, March 17 (SUNA) — Chairman of Eritrean Revolutionary Council Ahmed Nasir who is also member of Eritrean Liberation Front has denied the press statement released here recently by Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub.

In a press statement, Nasir denied yesterday the rumours saying the Eritrean factions have abandoned the slogan of separating Eritrea from Ethiopia.

The Organization of African Unity (OAU) Charter does not contradict the separation of Eritrea From Ethiopia. Nasir said, reaffirming that (OAU) charter referred to the respect of territories inherited from European colonialism.

The daily (*AL-SAHAFAH*) published here today quoted Nasir as saying Eritrea has a well knwon border with Ethiopia, Sudan and Djibouti.

Nasir went on condemning Ayyub statement saying if he wants to benefit diplomatically he has to find out other means instead of exploiting the Eritrean question.

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Meets With Ministers, Signs Documents

LD171931 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpts] President Habib Bourguiba held a working session with Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and minister of the interior, in the presence of Mohamed Skhiri, minister and director of the Presidential Office at the presidential palace in Carthage, this morning.

During the session, the head of state signed the following documents:

1. A document approving the judicial cooperation agreement between Tunisia and Poland which was adopted in Warsaw on 22 March 1985. Both countries signed this agreement in order to bolster friendship and cooperation relations between the Republic of Tunisia and the Republic of Poland, and because of the great importance that is attached to consolidating cooperation in judicial relations. This agreement determines the aspects of cooperation vis-a-vis civil and penal articles. This agreement stipulates the principle of equality enabling citizens of both parties to the agreement to resort to judicial authorities and to all specialized bodies to deal with their matters related to personal and financial rights on the basis of the same rights enjoyed by the citizens of the other party to the agreement.

It is worth noting that the agreement is similar to the judicial agreements signed between Tunisia and some eastern European countries such as Romania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and the Soviet Union;

2. A document approving the consular agreement that was agreed between Tunisia and Poland in Tunis on 6 March 1985. This agreement was made to materialize the desire of the Governments of the Tunisian Republic and the Polish People's Republic to bolster their relations in the consular field and to consolidate the existing bonds of relions of friendship between them.

The head of state has also decided to appoint Mustapha Badreddine as director-general of customs and exise.

President Habib Bourguiba received Mohamed Skhiri whom the supreme combattant appointed as governor of the Tunisian Central Bank in the presence of Mohamed Mzali and Mansouri Skhiri.

ETHIOPIA

Eritrean Front Official Speaks to Kuwaiti Journalist

EA172124 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] [Secretary General of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front] Comrade Ramadan Mohamed Nur has said that the People's Front will rely on its own ability to overcome all problems while pursuing its struggle for the independence and freedom of the Eritrean people.

This was stated the day before yesterday by the comrade secretary general in reply to questions from a journalist from the Kuwaiti paper *AL-ANBA*, who has concluded a tour of our liberated areas. Comrade Ramadan gave an extensive briefing to the journalist on the objective political and military situation in Eritrea.

Answering a question from the journalist on the assistance that the Eritrean revolution receives from the Arab states, Comrade Ramadan said: The views of Arab states concerning the Eritrean revolution differ, and this is reflected in their positions and assistance. The secretary general of the People's Front called on the Arab countries to stand side by side with and to step up their assistance to the Eritrean revolution at this time when the Eritrean people are fighting bitterly for their independence.

He also called on central news (?agencies) of the Arab countries to disseminate the objective reality of the Eritrean revolution after getting tangible evidence from the Eritrean battlefields.

UGANDA

Museveni Announces Pakwach Bridge Capture

AB171225 Dakar PANA in English 0955 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Kampala, 17 March (UNA/PANA) — Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has announced the capture of Pakwach Bridge in West Nile and Acholibur, a few kilometres from Kitgum to the liberation forces of the National Resistance Army. [sentence as received]

The president disclosed this on Saturday at a passing out ceremony of 33 pioneer NRM [National Resistance Movement] political cadres at the NRM political school located in Namugongo forest near Kampala.

In his address, President Museveni called for the integration of the economies of African states in order to have a wide resource base and a wider market. The Ugandan leader said African countries must work together economically if they are to make any impact on the world scene. He declared that African countries cannot continue to be in the camp of the most backward nations in the world when they are endowed with the best resources. He said the NRM believes that Africa can develop to the levels attained by developed countries.

NRA Officers Arrested; Troops Heading for Arua

EA181124 Nairobi THE STANDARD in English 18 Mar 86 p 20

[By *STANDARD* correspondent, Kampala: "NRA Officers Held in Uganda Clean-up"]

[Text] Two senior officers of the National Resistance Army [NRA] have been arrested in connection with the armed robberies of vehicles which have hit Kampala. The arrest of the two officers, whose names were not given, was announced by President Yoweri Museveni in his office at Parliament building yesterday. Robberies of cars have gone up over the last week, and one of the victims was an Anglican priest with the Africa Evangelical Crusade, the Reverend John Wilson, who was killed by armed men in military uniform, before taking away his car.

President Museveni said the arrest of the two NRA officers would assist in tracking down those behind the crime. The two officers are the ringleaders of this notorious group, Museveni said, adding that the arrest of the two was a relief to him. On the recent killing of a Kampala advocate, Museveni said unlike in the past, what was happening was not politically instigated. The stealing of motor vehicles and the killing of people in the last few days, has been criminally inspired, he explained, adding that eradicating insecurity from Kampala would take some time.

He said although there were instances of violence, they could not be compared to what had been happening in Uganda during the governments of Milton Obote and Tito Okello. During those regimes he said, violence was inspired by government agents. This is not what is happening today.

Commenting on the recent arrests of people in Iganga District, the president said Obote's Uganda Peoples Congress (UPC) had been organising thuggery through the formation of an organisation to restore Obote to power. If Obote wants to organise insurgency, we shall effectively deal with it, he said. In order to curb insecurity in and around Kampala, night patrols by NRA soldiers and the police would be increased. The fact that we are arresting and punishing bad soldiers within our army is in itself a healthy attitude. The past regimes never dared punish a soldier, the president said.

On the situation at the battle front in northern Uganda, the president said following the capture of Pakwach Bridge, the gateway to West Nile, the NRA was now heading towards Arua, the largest town in West Nile. He said he has sent negotiating teams to Arua but on their arrival there, they were arrested by UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army] soldiers. I understand that when the people of Arua heard about it, they picked up pangas and forced UNLA soldiers to release my envoys, saying they did not want the fleeing UNLA soldiers to take the war to Arua, Museveni added.

He conceded that there was still some resistance by the fleeing UNLA soldiers, adding: We continue to face counter-attacks from the fleeing soldiers, but we have always managed to crush them. Museveni said he thought after the liberation of the whole country, the fleeing soldiers might attempt to avenge. If they try to do this, we will decisively and effectively deal with them.

AFP: Press Coverage of Political Parties Banned

AB181025 Paris AFP in English 0958 GMT 18 Mar 86

[By Mukyusa Jengo]

[Text] Kampala, March 18 (AFP) — The new government of President Yoweri Museveni, which last week suspended all political party activity in the country, has extended the ban to prohibit parties from issuing any statements to or through the press.

In a surprise move, the minister of information and broadcasting, Abu Mayanja, released a statement Monday evening saying the press would not be allowed to publish statements issued by political parties until the ban is lifted. The display of political party flags, singing of party songs, wearing of clothes in party colours, and even party gestures and symbols have been banned under the regulations, Mr Mayanja said.

"I wish to make it clear beyond any shadow of doubt that the suspension of political party activities extends to and includes the issuing of any press or other public statements by political parties, and the publication of such statements by the press," the information minister's statement said.

"If you ban a political party from holding a political rally, but allow it to say through the press what it would have said at the rally, there would be no point in banning the rally in the first place," said the statement, which was also broadcast on Uganda radio.

The statement is a clear indication that the government was irked by a recent open letter to Internal Affairs Minister Paulo Ssemogere about 18 members of the formerly ruling Uganda Peoples Congress (UPC) now in custody without charges. The letter was issued by the acting administrative secretary general of the party, Kagenda Atwoki, and was widely publicised in the media. The UPC is the party of ex-President Milton Obote, now in exile after being ousted in a military coup last July.

"It should have been clear to the UPC and to the papers which published the statement that the ban would necessarily extend to the issuance and publication of a statement of whatever kind from a political party," Mr Mayanja said.

The UPC statement was issued the same day as an editor of the *FOCUS* weekly newspaper, Sully Kiwanuka, was charged in a Kampala magistrate's court with sedition. Mr Kiwanuka was granted bail of 200,000 Uganda shillings (about 136 dollars).

CAMEROON

Biya Addresses Party Militants After Elections

AB161025 Yaounde Domestic Service in English
1900 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Address by President Paul Biya to CPDM militants on 15 March; place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] Fellow countrymen, the elections of officials at all the provinces of the CPDM [Cameroon People's Democratic Movement] have ended. They were free and fair, with several candidates standing and through the secret ballot. In fact, they were democratic because each voter was able to make his personal choice. The elections have been a total success. They were organized and carried out in order and peace. There was large participation, and there was enthusiasm. [Words indistinct] and your attachment to the institutions of the Republic, for which I would like to thank each of you. Each Cameroonian concerned has fulfilled his civic responsibilities and duties.

Indeed, these elections have been won by Cameroon. Our country will continue through the new deal and the CPDM to progress in unity, peace, and social justice.

National unity involves you and all of us. Continue to remain committed, continue to be responsible men and women of your country, continue to be efficient in all you do. We have a challenge before us. Let us meet it through strong militancy, [word indistinct] commitment, discipline, and tolerance.

Long live CPDM. Long live Cameroon.

Biya Receives CAR, Equatorial Guinea Ministers

AB142205 Yaounde Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpt] There were two diplomatic ceremonies this afternoon at the Unity Palace. The first audience was granted by Head of State Paul Biya to an Equatorial Guinean envoy, Mr Inestroca Felipe, the finance minister, who came to deliver to President Biya a message from his counterpart, Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo.

The second ceremony was an occasion for the CAR special envoy to deliver to the president of the Republic a message addressed to him by President Andre Kolingba. Answering questions from the press, Lieutenant Colonel Christophe Grelombe, the CAR minister of interior, declared that relations between his country and Gabon are excellent, natural [naturel], and dynamic. He, moreover, expressed his appreciation for the announcement on the holding of a meeting between President Hissein Habre of Chad and the main leader of the opposition, Mr Goukouni Oueddei.

CHAD

GUNT Prisoners Transferred to Ndjamena

AB151922 Paris AFP in French 1414 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, 15 March (AFP) — Some 100 fighters of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) who were taken prisoner during the violent fighting of 5 March this year on the 16th parallel have just been transferred into the Chadian capital, it was learned from official sources in Ndjamena on Saturday.

These GUNT prisoners, described as "mercenaries" by the Ndjamena authorities, are going to join their companions in arms — several hundred, according to official sources — captured during the mid-February fighting in Oum Chalouba, Kalait, Koro Toro, Kouba Olanga, and Zigey in the north of the country. Of Chadian origin and citizens of Chad's neighboring countries, these soldiers of Mr Goukouni Oueddei, the GUNT president, were either enrolled by force as was recently stated by the Chadian minister of information, Mr Mahamet Soumaila, or engaged for money according to reliable concordant sources.

FANT Claims Islamic Legion Unit at Chicha Destroyed

AB171922 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1858 GMT 17 Mar 86

["Communique" issued by the High Command of the Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT) on 17 March 1986 in Ndjamena — read by second in command Major (Galiban Dantato)]

[Text] A patrol unit of Libyan provocateurs and their mercenaries was intercepted by the FANT at 30 km northeast of Koro-Toro today, 17 March 1986. After a few minutes of intense fighting, the aggressors who were put to flight, were captured. Acting in self-defense and using their right of pursuit, the FANT chased the fleeing troops up to the base from where they came, that is the Chicha command post. It was a total surprise for these dogs in the barracks at Chicha and they were completely destroyed. The Islamic Legion based at Chicha is only a past memory. The detailed balance-sheet of this victorious action of the FANT will be announced later.

ZAIRE

Foreign Workers Captured by UNITA Arrive

AB161300 Paris AFP in English 1252 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 16 (AFP) — More than 150 foreign workers captured by the rebel National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) in northeast Angola last March 1 have arrived in neighbouring Zaire and will be freed Sunday or Monday, a reliable source said here.

UNITA had originally said when it captured the workers, who represented eight different nationalities, that they would be marched 2,000 kilometres (1,200 miles) south to the movement's headquarters at Jamba in southeast Angola before negotiations would begin for their release.

The group was the largest ever captured by UNITA, and the march faced serious logistic problems in the face of severe terrian and possible attacks by government forces.

The foreigners were said by foreign diplomats in Luanda to include 97 Filpinos, 40 Portuguese, four Britons, two West Germans and a Romanian. Ten of the captives, from Portugal, Canada, Sao Tome and Principe and Angola, were reported to have escaped after their capture.

Andrade is Angola's largest diamond-mining complex.

In Lisbon, the Portuguese news agency ANOP quoted Prime Minister Anibal Cavaco Silva as saying that a Portuguese airliner would be leaving for Kinshasa to bring home the Portuguse captives.

The prime minister did not know when the plane would be leaving and whether it would be bringing back other nationalities.

UNITA said when it captured the foreigners that the Portuguese and Filipinos would be released first unconditionally out of respect for new Portuguese President Mario Soares and the "return of the democratic process" to the Philippines. The remainder would be freed after negotiations involving the International Committee of the Red Cross, UNITA said.

Official Receives Angolan, Chadian Envoys

AB160930 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1740 15 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 15 Mar (AZAP) — Bokingi Embeyolo, secretary of state for foreign affairs, on Saturday successively received and held talks with Miguel Gaspar Neto and Maitine Djoumbe, ambassadors of the People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of Chad to Zaire respectively, who paid him courtesy calls.

Interviewed by the press at the end of the visit, Gaspar Neto indicated that he and the secretary of state reviewed the general situation prevailing in southern Africa, particularly in Angola, before discussing the visit to be paid to Luanda soon by some Zairian experts within the framework of cooperation relations between Zaire and Angola. They also reviewed the situation of Angolans residing in Zaire, said the Angolan diplomat, without, however, giving the exact number of this community. Mr Neto returned to Kinshasa recently after a few weeks' mission to his country.

On his part, Mr Maitine explained to Mr Bokingi the problems currently facing his country and the efforts that the Chadian Government, led by President Hissein Habre, continues to make to redress the political, sociocultural, and economic situation in Chad.

PRC Trade Union Delegation Continues Visit

AB161350 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1115 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Matadi, 16 March (AZAP) — A delegation of PRC trade unionists led by Wang Xun, secretary of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions currently on a friendly visit to Zaire, returned to Kinshasa on Sunday at the end of a 24-hour visit to Bas-Zaire Region. This 6-member delegation that was accompanied by Citizen Ikanga Mpia, deputy national secretary of the National Union of Workers of Zaire [UNTZA] in charge of external relations was met on arrival at Inga by Citizen Musafiri Abudu, UNTZA regional secretary, and his close associates.

In Bas-Zaire Region, members of the Chinese delegation visited the major projects of the second Republic, that is, the site of the Inga hydroelectric dam, the Marshal Mobutu Sese Bridge, and the Matadi international port where technical details about these projects were given them by Zairian engineers.

BURKINA FASO

National Council Delegation Leaves for PRC

AB171557 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] An important delegation of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] led by Lieutenant Daouda Traore has flown to Beijing in the PRC today. After the visit paid by the comrade president of Burkina Faso to that country in November 1984, and the fruitful relations which have developed between the two countries, this mission testifies to the importance of the ties of friendship and fraternity existing between the peoples of China and Burkina Faso.

CEAO Council of Ministers Begins Meeting

AB172205 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] In little over 1 week's time, our country's capital will host the summits of the heads of state of CEAO [West African Economic Community], the Liptako-Gourma Authority and of the ANAD [Nonagression and Defense Aid Agreement]. The last preparatory meetings are being held this week. The first of such meetings is the 22d session of the Council of Ministers of the CEAO, which opened this afternoon at the Congress Hall of the Community's headquarters. Our correspondent, Godfrey Basi, who was at the opening ceremony reports on the highlights:

This ceremony, that brought out a large number of the militants of Kadiogo Province, was attended by the ministers of our revolutionary government as well as those of the participating countries — Benin, Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal.

Opening the meeting, CEAO Secretary General Drissa Keita pointed out that following the 10th summit in Bamako — a summit which gave the green light for the implementation of the second round of projects which all fell within the framework of our policy of self-sufficiency in food production — this Ouagadougou summit has come to make concrete the pertinent directives that would enable us to attain our objective of improving the standard of living of our respective peoples. But, what does the agenda of this meeting look like? Let us listen to Drissa Keita:

[Begin Keita recording] The following committees held their meetings: the Committee on Trade Exchanges, the Committee on Rural Development, the Committee on Industrial Development, the Administrative and Finance Committee, and the Committee on Village Water Control. On trade exchanges, the issues discussed concerned the appraisal of the results of the first session on the revision of the agreements signed on (?TCR) [?regional cooperation tax].

As you all know, during its last meeting, our Council of Ministers decided that the status quo be maintained until its 22d session. On the one had, this was to enable some delegations to exchange views on the rates which their home governments apply, and on the other hand, it was to enable the General Secretariat to follow up all matters arising from the revision of the agreements. This survey which centered on the problems arising from the revision of the agreements signed on the TCR, also examined the effects of this revision on the entire orjectives of the community, and led to a proposal for new resources.

In the field of rural development, the common agricultural policy constituted the cornerstone of this committee's deliberations. It must be recalled that from 6 through 10 May 1985, the first meeting of the working group set up under the auspices of the CEAO to exchange and harmonize views on the new national agricultural policies was held. The points deliberated upon during the meeting concern ways to improve the exchange of information, management of the environment, water control, reactivation of production capabilities, transport and communications as well as agro-based industry.

In the field of industrial development, the sixth conference of heads of state had adopted the orientations for the implementation of community and industrial integration projects. The Ministerial Council mandated the General Secretariat to undertake, as soon as possible, the necessary survey for the implementation of this program.

In carrying out this task, the General Secretariat chose to survey some projects. They are the projects for the production and distribution of fertilizer, the production and distribution of steel products, the production and distribution of (?glass) as well as the development of agricultural and water-pumping equipment manufacturing. Concerning the harmonization of investment codes of member states, a survey was carried out in 1981 with the assistance of the UNCTAD. The survey was aimed at attracting capital and technologies, the harmonious spread of investments and the creation of complementary production units within the framework of the integration of our economies.

The administrative and financial experts, for their part, examined the draft budget cof the General Secretariat for 1986. The budget demonstrates a desire for austerity [words indistinct]. As for the village water control committee, its meeting examined in particular the progress made on the first program and the level of the implementation of the second one. [end recording]

Finally, Drissa Keita asked Comrade Justin Damo Barro [Burkina's minister of financial resources] to convey his thanks to the president of the republic, to the revolutionary government and to the entire Burkinabe people for the warm welcome given to the various delegations.

Eyadema, Houphouet-Boigny, Kerekou To Attend CEAO

AB161039 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] The summit of heads of state of the West African Economic Community [CEAO], of the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement, and the Liptako-Gourma Authority will take place in Burkina Faso at the end of March. To reiterate the invitation of Burkina Faso, the current chairman of the three bodies, to members, missions have been sent to all member and observer countries. Delegations have been to Mali, Niger, Conakry in Guinea, Mauritania, Ivory Coast, Benin, Senegal, and Togo.

The Burkinabe delegation sent to Ivory Coast, Togo, and Benin was led by Comrade Captain Blaise Compaore. On his return from the mission yesterday afternoon, the comrade minister of state to the presidency in charge of justice spoke to the press about his mission. He disclosed that the heads of state of the three countries which he visited, that it President Houphouet-Boigny, Matthieu Kerekou, and Gnassingbe Eyadema, would attend the meeting.

Comrade Blaise Compaore also referred to the ordinary session of the People's Revolutionary Tribunal of Ouagadougou which will be held on 25 March. It is at this session that the people of the CEAO will see the end to the CEAO'S 6 billion CFA franc affair. According to Comrade Compaore, procedures at the next trial will be slightly modified since the accused will be defended by their lawyers.

CAPE VERDE

Communique Marks Mauritania's Ould Taya's Visit

LD171115 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 16 Mar 86

["Full text" of the Mauritania-Cape Verde joint communique on the 13-16 March visit to Cape Verde by Mauritanian head of state Maayouia Sidi Ahmed Ould Taya]

[Excerpts] Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, returned to the capital this afternoon from Praia following a 3-day visit to the Republic of Cape Verde. The visit of the head of state to Cape Verde was culminated in the signing of a joint communique; the following is the full text of it, read by colleague Ahmed Yakoub Bernaoui:

At the invitation of the his excellency Aristides Pereira, secretary general of the Party of Independence and president of the Republic of Cape Verde, his excellency Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, paid an official and friendly visit to the Republic of Cape Verde 13-16 March 1986, which was in the framework of consolidating the existing ties of friendship and fraternality between the two coumtries.

The two presidents held talks in an atmosphere of fraternity and mutual understanding, which enabled them to undertake a deep analysis of the existing relations between the two countries, in addition to African, Arab, and international issues. In this respect, the two presidents expressed their satisfaction with their identical views.

Regarding the bilateral relations, the two presidents stressed anew the distinguished nature of the relations between Cape Verde and Mauritania and their determination to develop and consolidate these relations in the framework of the spirit of the fraternity linking the two countries. In this permanent framework, the two presidents stressed the need to exchange delegations and experts, a matter which will help for a mutual acquaintance of the two countries and a correct appraisal for the establishment of cooperation that takes into consideration the development goals in both countries. In this respect the two presidents agreed to exert their efforts to revive and activate, as soon as possible, the greater committee for cooperation between the two countries and to create the necessary institutions that will guarantee a fruitful cooperation between Cape Verde and Mauritania.

The two presidents expressed satisfaction with the colossal task undertaken by the joint committee for combating desertification in the Sahel countries, whose work is within the framework of the battle undertaken by the Sahel Countries Organization against drought and in order to reach a self-sufficiency in the field of food for this region's peoples.

They also expressed their satisfaction with good outcome of the meeting of the presidents and prime ministers of the Sahel Organization member states held in Dakar on 28-29 January 1986. Regarding the reorganization of this organization, the two presidents called upon all members to unite all their efforts in order to contribute to the revival of their joint organization and in order to face up the dramatic situation experienced by the countries of the Sahel. The two presidents called upon the international community to exert more and more efforts that might relieve some of the hardship experienced by the peoples of this region.

GHANA

Rawlings Returns From Sweden, Italy Visits

AB180900 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, returned home this morning after attending the funeral of the assassinated Swedish prime minister, Mr Olof Palme, in Stockholm on Saturday [15 March]. Chairman Rawlings, who was accompanied by the secretary for economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway, and Mr Tsatsu Tsikata of the law faculty, University of Ghana, also paid a brief working visit to Italy.

Briefing newsmen at the Kotoka International Airport, Dr Botchway said the massive attendance at the funeral — there were representatives of 130 countries — demonstrated the universal recognition of Mr Palme as the champion of Third World aspirations, peace movements, and his stand on social justice, and a more just world economic order. He said the funeral also provided the opportunity for rededication to the principles Mr Palme fought for. His death, according to Dr Botchway, has increased the determination of the Swedish people in their struggle against apartheid and for social justice.

While in Stockholm, Flight Lt Rawlings also met the prime minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe, Presidents Samora Machel of Mozambique, and Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua. Discussions during these meetings centered on the implications of Mr Palme's death for the liberation struggle in Africa.

While in Italy, Chairman Rawlings met the Italian foreign minister, Mr Andreotti, and had useful discussions on bilateral issues. Dr Botchway said the second annual meeting on bilateral relations between Ghana and Italy is expected to take place next November. On Italy's role in solving the southern African problem, Dr Botchway said Ghana would like Italy to play a bigger role than it is doing now. This is because unlike some other Western countries, Italy has done nothing against the interest of African states, and its involvement would be more welcome.

Present at the airport to welcome Chairman Rawlings were Captain Kojo Tsikata, the Force Commander, Major General Arnold Quainoo, Brigadier Mensah-Wood, and Alhaji Idrissu Mahama, all of them members of the PNDC. There were also some PNDC secretaries. The inspector general of police, Mr S.S. Omane, and the Air Force commander, Air Commodore J.E.A. Kotei, were there to welcome the chairman.

Rawlings Talks to AFRICA MAGAZINE on National Issues

AB162108 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings has declared that government has not deviated from its goals and that every step taken by the PNDC is towards the building of a solid foundation for the reconstruction of the country.

In an interview published in this month's issue of *AFRICA MAGAZINE*, the chairman explained, we do not want to rush only to fall headlong. He criticized those who accused the PNDC of deviating from its objective and making U-turns and said they are people who are unable to practically contribute to the day-to-day drudgery of working towards the country's goals.

Chairman Rawlings said such people prefer to sit on the sidelines commenting and criticizing but avoiding the risks, weariness and the sacrifice which are necessary parts of the process.

Asked whether Ghana's debts present potential problems for the PNDC's ability to adopt independent political position, the chairman said the government's aim is not to democratize poverty. Rather the government is determined to build a self-sustaining economy which will not depend on aid. He said Ghana is now self-sufficient in the major basic food items and has increased her storage facilities. She can even export maize, yam and a variety of fruits.

Flight Lt Rawlings explained that even though the rehabilitation of the country's major export sector has been expensive in terms of investments it will pay for the country's debtas. Chairman Rawlings said: We began 1982 with debts, empty coffers, broken-down infrastructure, insufficient food production and demoralized people. It was only with a large injection of external funds that we could rehabilitate our economy and at the same time pay for essential imports like oil and drugs. The chairman said: without loans, Ghana would have virtually no export earning.

Flight Lt Rawlings likened the situation to a man who has to dig a well in order to get water for survival. However, the man has no tools and has the choice therefore either to dig with his bare hands or to borrow money to buy tools and then use some of the water from the well to grow vegetables to pay off his debts.

On the role of chiefs in the program of the PNDC, Chairman Rawlings said since Ghana is engaged in a process of social transformation, chiefs can only remain focal points of authority in the society if they adapt to changes and use their authority to mobilize their people for the advancement of their areas. Ghanaians, he said, cannot be divorced from the roots of their traditional values, but traditional institutions are not static and must change with the times.

On the reorganization of the CDRS [Committee for the Defense of the Revolution], the leader of the revolution said, the move is to make them more mature, more practical and more concerned with constructive activities to win friends for the revolution rather than engage in confrontation and antagonism towards those whom they once regarded as enemies. He said the CDRS did some very valuable work in defense of the revolution and in restoring the confidence and pride of the underdog in the country, but at the same time, there was an excess of sometimes poorly directed exuberance and shortage of organizational ability and practical direction.

Flight Lt Rawlings said the reorganization of the PDCS [People's Defense Committee] in 1984 was therefore necessary to correct those mistakes. He added that there has been a great improvement, because they have become a constructive force in communities and workplaces and have won the respect of those who had one time regarded them with reservation or even antagonism.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Authorities Said Appealing for International Food Aid

AB151932 Paris AFP in English 1731 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Lisbon, March 15 (AFP) — The authorities in Guinea-Bissau have appealed for international food aid to offset a projected shortfall of 28,000 tonnes of cereals, the NOTICIAS DE PORTUGAL news agency has said here.

The agency, quoting a document from the small West African country's Planning Ministry, said its estimated needs included 13,000 tonnes of rice, 5,000 tonnes of wheat flour, 500 tonnes of vegetable oil, 300 tonnes of powdered milk and 125 tonnes of butter.

The document described 1985 agricultural production as 'satisfactory' at nearly 119,000 tonnes. However national cereal consumption is estimated at almost 147,000 tonnes per year.

LIBERIA

Doe Establishes Special Economic Crisis Committee

AB151931 Paris AFP in English 1720 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Monrovia, March 15 (AFP) — Liberian President Samuel Doe has set up a 19-man special committee to study the country's crisis-struck economy and come out with ideas on how to improve it, it was announced here on Saturday.

A statement from General Doe's official residence said the new body was set up during a meeting on Friday [14 March] with the heads of the country's main business organisations, including logging companies, the Firestone Rubber Plantation Company, iron ore mining companies, agricultural exporting companies and all banks. The committee also includes the ministers of planning, finance and commerce.

Gen. Doe expressed a wish that it would work "in the supreme interest of the Liberian people" by coming up with "concrete recommendations."

The president is also expected to meet with representatives of the West African country's Lebanese and Indian communities for similar discussions on the economy.

Opposition Leaders, American Arrested, Released

AB171158 Paris AFP in French 1134 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Monrovia, 17 Mar (AFP) — The spokesman of the Liberian Action Party (LAP, opposition), Jackson Doe (no relation to the head of state), and Samuel Dawn, a LAP candidate beaten in the legislative elections of 15 October 1985, were arrested and later released on Sunday, it was indicated by the independent *SUNTIMES* newspaper in Monrovia.

These LAP leaders were arrested "without any specific motive," at the same time as an American national whose identity was not revealed. They were released after 2 hours of interrogation, according to a statement by Jackson Doe to the *SUNTIMES*. According to him, the two men were to deliver a letter to an American friend who was returning to the United States. They were released after 2 hours "of humiliation" and their letter was confiscated, he pointed out.

Jackson Doe was arrested after the abortive coup d'etat of 12 November 1985 against President Samuel K. Doe. He was later released when the government decided not to prosecute him for treason for lack of evidence.

Teachers Deny Reported Refusal To Resume Work

AB180840 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The Monrovia Consolidated Schools' System Teachers' Association has denied news reports that they refuse to accept President Samuel Kanyon Doe's appeal to them to return to their classrooms. The president on Sunday appealed to teachers throughout the country to return to their classes while he personally looked into their problems.

Meanwhile, according to reports, teachers were yesterday reported to be meeting with Education Minister E. Othello Gonga in a bid to resolve the situation.

MALI

DPRK Vice Premier Kim Yong-nam Arrives

AB161110 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0900 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Kim Yong-nam, vice premier and minister of foreign affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, arrived in Bamako yesterday evening for a 48-hour official visit to Mali. He was met by Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; his excellency Hong Il-ho, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the DPRK to Mali; and by Baubacar Toure, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Mali to the DPRK, resident in Tokyo. He was also met by officials of the ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

Beye, Kim Yong-nam at Dinner

AB171400 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation yesterday evening hosted an official dinner in honor of the DPRK vice-premier and foreign minister [Kim Yong-nam] who has been on a friendly working visit to Mali since last Saturday.

This dinner offered the the two diplomats the opportunity to exchange toasts. Speaking to the Korean party, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Blondin Beye, stressed the strengthening of the ties of friendship and cooperation linking our two countries since long ago. Mr Blondin Beye also reiterated the unflinching support of the Malian people to the cause of nonalignment and the independent and peaceful unification of Korea.

[Begin Beye recording] The Republic of Mali, from the time it obtained its independence, has maintained the most friendly relations with all peace-loving and justice-seeking countries, including the DPRK. These relations are strengthened every day in the mutual interest of our two peoples and could serve as an example of Afro-Asian cooperation. Our common will to work together for the realization of our objectives has allowed our cooperation to be enlarged to cover all fields: political, economic, cultural, and social sectors. It is with the constant concern of carrying to its true dimension this invaluable common heritage of friendship, solidarity and sympathy that the leaders of our two countries have never ceased to consult one another and to increase meetings at the highest level.

Mr Minister, the right of Koreans to live together in a united and inalienable fatherland, in an era when people all over the world are asserting their desire for unity and freedom, must be supported.

I wish to take this pleasant occasion to reiterate our solidarity and our unflinching support for the Korean people in their just struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of their fatherland on the basis of the important 10-point proposals put forward by the DPRK and its great leader, Kim Il-song. In this regard, Mali supports the proposal made recently by our Korean friends for a tripartite meeting to find a just and rapid solution to the division of the Korean nation and to reconstitute the Great Korea.

Mr Minister, we in Mali are happy to note that our two governments have identical views on the major international problems. Mali and Korea, faithful to the principles and objectives of the Nonaligned Movement, are, more than ever, convinced of the need to uphold the spirit of justice and understanding in international relations in order to ensure a climate of peace and concord among peoples. It is along this line of ideas that the two governments have been working in close collaboration and support all initiatives which have the noble ambition of consolidating the Nonaligned Movement, with a view to establishing a true South-South cooperation which will generate economic and social progress.

Yes, Mr Minister, Mali considers that the solidarity of the peoples of Africa, Asia, and Latin America constitutes a real force against the forces of retrogression which are manifesting themselves aggressively, notably in Asia, the Middle East, and southern Africa. And, the peace toward which we deeply aspire will not be safeguarded until an end has been brought to foreign interference in the internal affairs of other countries, notably in southern Africa, in Palestine, and in the tension spots in Asia.

Mr Minister, in the struggle which we are waging within the Nonaligned Movement and elsewhere, I am convinced that your country will not spare any effort in continuing to offer its support to the developing countries. I am convinced that your visit to Mali will help to strengthen the friendship and solidarity between our peoples and give a new impetus to our bilateral, many-sided, and mutually beneficial cooperation, in line with the firm wishes of Presidents Moussa Traore and Kim Il-song, two old friends who will soon have the great pleasure of meeting. [end recording]

In reply, the Korean minister of foreign affiars said he was greatly moved by the tireless efforts toward economic development and peaceful coexistence pursued by the party and the government on both the national and international levels.

[Begin Kim Yong-nam recording] It is a great pleasure to undertake this visit to Mali and to its hard-working people with whom we have long had established relations of friendship, cooperation, and solidarity. The discussions which we have had today with your excellency Mr Minister are significant, concrete discussions with sound contents. I could already see through these discussions the identical nature of views of our two countries [words indistinct]. [Words indistinct] and Mali is prospering thanks to the policy of the party and the government headed by his excellency President Moussa Traore. Day by day, Mali has been achieving (?successes) and greatness and has been demonstrating the power of a sovereign and independent state. His Excellency President Kim Il-song has particular and personal relations with His Excellency President Moussa Traore. The relations of friendship and cooperation existing between our two countries are based on these relations. [Passage indistinct]

DPRK Expects Traore Visit

AB172229 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] The DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs [Kim Yong-nam] on visit to Mali during the past 3 days was just received in audience today on behalf of the head of state, President Moussa Traore, by the BEC [Central Executive Bureau] political secretary. The talks centered on the desire of the Korean people and its leadership to welcome the president of the republic in their country very soon. On this occasion, the Korean minister revealed to the BEC political secretary that preparations for this visit, described as historic, have already started in the Korean capital.

On his part, the BEC political secretary asked the DPRK foreign minister to convey, on behalf of the head of state, friendly and fraternal greetings to the DPRK head of state. [passage indistinct]

Training Center Inaugurated

AB172227 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] The DPRK minister of foreign affairs, Kim Yong-nam, has ended his visit to Mali. Prior to his departure, the Korean foreign minister this morning laid the foundation stone of the advanced training center for diplomats in Badalabougou Ward. The ceremony took place in the presence of the Malian minister of foreign affairs, Alioune Blondin Beye, who was with the DPRK ambassador to Mali, and Boubakar Toure, Mali's ambassador to Korea who is resident in Beijing. With a total area of 1,400 square meters, the new center, which is a personal gift from Kim Il-song to President Moussa Traore, is situated not far from the Cultural Palace, and is totally financed by the Korean side.

At the end of the ceremony, the Malian foreign minister, Alioune Blondin Beye, said that after the Pottery Factory of Mali, the Cultural Palace, and the (?Samanko) irrigated farm, this center will testify to the excellent relations of friendship existing between Korea and Mali. In conclusion, the foreign minister hoped that the center would be inaugurated by Korean President Kim Il-song himself.

NIGERIA

Lagos State Governor Recommends Zero-Party System

AB172046 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] As the political debate heats up in different parts of the country, Governor Gbolahan Mudashiru of Lagos State had recommended what he calls a zero-party system for Nigeria.

Under the system, no political parties will be allowed to operate and people's choice will be based on individuals and their personal merits. Group Captain Mudashiru suggested that this arrangement should be retained for at least 10 years after the return to civil rule in order to prepare the grounds for a permanent political order which would evolve naturally.

According to him, the zero-party system will overcome the inherent instability associated with alien political party systems. The governor, who was speaking members of the Political Bureau touring the state, said it was possible under the system to have electoral or selectoral methods of choosing national leaders. But he opted for the selectoral approach and recommended that the selection of leaders should be based on the existing local governments. Each of them should produce a given number of nominees who will constitute an electoral college that will appoint the executive and legislative candidates. Group Captain Mudashiru stated that members of the electoral college must be men of integrity who had not been identified with party politics in the past. They should include representatives of special groups such as elder citizens, professionals, religious organizations and the business sector.

Army to 'Indigenize' Training; Indian Group Visits

AB170725 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] The Nigerian Army is taking steps to fully indigenize its training programs. In this direction, the Commanding Staff College, Jagi, near Kaduna, says it will not renew the contract of any foreign instructor deployed to the institution.

The commandant of the college, Major General Paul (Omu), said, however, that the foreign participation in courses run by the institution would continue on exchange basis. At present Nigeria has an exchange program with Ghana, whereby each country sends two directing staff to each other's college for 2 years.

Meanwhile, an Indian military delegation led by Lieutenant General (Harud Singh) has begun an exchange visit to the college. The team, made up of army, navy, and air force personnel, had already delivered lectures on various military strategies.

SENEGAL

President Abdou Diouf Holds Talks in Austria

For Vienna press coverage of the visit by President Abdou Diouf, including his meetings with Chancellor Fred Sinowatz, see the Austria section of the 18 March Western Europe *DAILY REPORT.*

ANGOLA

Red Cross, UNITA Representatives on Hostages

MB171717 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 17 Mar 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program, introduced by Chris Picketon]

[Text] [Picketon] There are reports that some 200 foreign hostages seized by UNITA rebels in Angola at the begining of this month have been released. They were captured during the rebel raid on a diamond mining area in the northeast. UNITA said they would be marched and trucked over a 1,000 miles south to UNITA's headquarters at Jamba, but now, it seems they have been released prematurely into the hands of the International Committee of the Red Cross in neighboring Zaire. On the line to Geneva, Julian Marshall asked Catherine Parducci of the Red Cross what her information was.

[Begin recording] [Parducci] Well, following the events, you know, which have occurred on 1 March in Andrada, north of Angola, and which have led to the capture of a certain number of foreigners, UNITA has contacted the International Committee of the Red Cross so that we find and clear a way for the transit of these people in a view of repatriation to Europe. So when the [words indistinct] in Geneva has started to do, well, wanted to put everybody in security and avoiding a long and painful march. Following this request, we have asked Zaire if it was possible to organize their transit. Zaire has accepted, so a transit through the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva and also in the field in Zaire is organizing this repatriation. Of course, I can understand that we are in contact with the different authorities concerned, which is of course with the various authorities of the country of origin of these people and we are now organizing the practical and technical details of the operation.

[Marshall] But are these people safe and sound?

[Parducci] Well, it is difficult to say. At the moment they seem to be...[changes thought] we have seen them in Zaire, we tried to organize for their security and to put them in security. Today, we sent some food and some clothes so that they have at least something to dress.

[Marshall] And are the Zairian authorities being very cooperative with you?

[Parducci] Well, [words indistinct], of course.

[Picketon] Well, as I said earlier the release of the hostages seems to have been rather premature. UNITA's London representative, Marcos Simondo, is in the studio with me. Marcos, what went wrong?

[Simondo] Well, I don't think you can say, what went wrong, but you should say what went right. We decided to liberate the captives on humanitarian grounds and that's coinciding with the 20th anniversary of UNITA's independence. [as heard] so, that played a great role to liberate the people.

[Picketon] But there have been reports that in fact your route to the south had been actually cut off by MPLA troops.

[Simondo] No, there is no truth to that statement whatsoever. We decided to liberate the people because, mind you, the group was extremely large and there were women and children as well, and so Dr Savimbi indicated that we should find a way of releasing those people as soon as possible. That is why we got in touch with the Red Cross for them to find a quicker way to take the people out of Angola.

[Picketon] There have also been somewhat mysterious reports of some kind of attempted ambush on the column of hostages and UNITA troops.

[Simondo] Yes, there was an attempt by the MPLS, an attempt that was directed by the MPLA chief of staff, Franca Ndalo, who was at Chikapa which is a little bit south of Andrada and he wanted to attack the people so that he can create some kind of problem to UNITA, but fortunately that plan was foiled.

[Picketon] But the fact remains that your original intention was to take the hostages all the way down to Jamba.

[Simondo] Well, that was the original plan, but then when we realized how large the group was and also the composition of the group, which was made up by women and children, it would be extremely difficult and also since UNITA is celebrating now the 20th anniversary of its foundation, we just decided as a humanitarian gesture we should release those people as soon as possible and the Red Cross also cooperated well on the subject.

[Picketon] Marcos Simondo of UNITA, thank you very much.

[Simondo] Thank you. [end recording]

FAPLA Officer Says 90% of UNITA 'Neutralized'

MB140802 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Lieutenant Colonel Roberto Monteiro, FAPLA deputy chief of General Staff, has given assurances that 90 percent of the UNITA forces deployed by racist South Africa in eastern and southeastern of Angola have already been neutralized. In an exclusive interview with AFP's special correspondent, Bernard Dorter, the deputy chief of General Staff said that the true enemy of the Angolan revolution is South Africa. The acts of agression against the People's Republic of Angola are carried out by regular South African forces and their appendage army made up of Angolan traitors, (?that is, UNITA).

The UNITA bandits, who are supported and encouraged by the Pretoria regime, have since the beginning of 1986 carried out 73 raids on civilian targets, which resulted in 1,100 dead and 1,000 wounded, and over 200 civilians were (?abducted). Lt Col Monteiro told the AFP journalist that since last year, the Angolan Armed Forces have carried out offensives without the assistance of military advisors from friendly countries.

On the presence of the internationalist Cuban troops in Angola, about whom South Africa exerts unwarranted pressure, the FAPLA deputy chief of General Staff told AFP that most Cuban personnel are involved in logistical operations and do not take part in combat operations under any circumstances.

NAMIBIA

Security Forces Kill 18 SWAPO 'Insurgents'

MB151341 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1055 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Windhoek, March 15, SAPA — Security forces in northern SWA/Namibia have shot dead 18 SWAPO insurgents in various skirmishes over the last nine days, the SWA Territory Force said in Windhoek today.

The latest SWAPO fatalities brought to 173 the number of insurgents "eliminated" since the beginning of the year.

The SWATF said in a statement that since February 22, SWAPO insurgents had abducted 63 civilians in four separate incidents from the Ovambo region, but all of them had been freed by the security forces.

"Thanks to the prompt action and good cooperation of civilians who reported the abductions immediately" the security forces succeeded in setting free the abductees and tracking down a number of insurgents.

The SWATF said 50 of those abducted were children.

It seemed that SWAPO was experiencing a drop in numbers and that the organisation was concentrating on the abduction of children to complement its ranks, the statement added.

School Closed Temporarily After Weekend Unrest

MB171351 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1114 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Windhoek, March 17, SAPA — The Augustineum College outside Windhoek has been closed until April 8 following incidents of unrest at the weekend, the minister of national education in the SWA/Namibian transitional government, Mr Andrew Matjila, confirmed.

The decision was taken after a meeting with the school children today.

Mr Matjila said that when the college reopened all the children would have to be accompanied by their parents to obtain readmission.

"Every parent will have to sign a document that he will abide by the school's regulations and any policy" applied by the Department of National Education, he said.

The students' main grievance centered on the principal of the Augustineum College but it had already been decided some time ago to transfer the principal to another school at the end of term, Mr Matjila added.

Police earlier reported they had fired tear gas canisters at students who had started throwing stones on Saturday evening.

Three policemen were hit by stones and a student broke a leg when he trod into a hole and fell, while windows were broken and a vehicle was damaged, police said.

Students said they had been hit with batons and sjamboks, but police denied the claims.

Members of the police task force were again deployed at Augustineum College last night when renewed unrest flared up, but police reported today that all was quiet at the college after the students had left the grounds.

SOUTH AFRICA

Du Plessis on Defense, Education Spending

MB171510 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1504 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Parliament, March 17, SAPA — The minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis today budgeted for an expenditure during the forthcoming financial year of R37,447 billion.

This represented an increase of 19 per cent on last year's figure and a 13.6 per cent increase on the revised figure of R32,977 billion, he said in his budget speech.

Apart from the ten per cent salary increases for public servants already announced, a further R227 million is being made available to enable the continuation on a modest scale programme of job differentiation.

A total of R650.6 million has been provided for housing — an increase of 25.4 per cent on last year's budget — while the total provision for black housing amounts to R311.3 million of this.

For education, still by far the largest expenditure item in the budget, the minister has allocated R6,082 billion, an increase of 19.3 per cent on 1985/86.

"Regarding black education as such, the increase in primary and secondary education outlays is R159 million, or 27.8 per cent above the budgeted amount for 1985/86."

Reiterating the need for South Africa to be fully prepared in the military sphere in order to contain the forces threatening the country, and the heavy financial demands of this, Mr du Plessis said defence was allocated an amount of R5.123 billion, representing 13.7 per cent of the estimated expenditure for the 1986/87 year — a ratio that was virtually the same as that for the previous financial year.

A sum of R775.8 million was provided for the atomic energy corporation [AEC] or an increase of 47.5 per cent over 1985/86.

"If the carry-over costs of expenditures that in 1985/86 were covered by loans of about R157 million, and the redemption in 1986 of AEC loans of 52.5 million, are left out of account the increase for this service is only 7.6 per cent," the minister said.

The government had accepted the Davin commission of inquiry's recommendation that the subsidy on bread be phased out and the subsidy for 1986/87 would be reduced to R150 million from R200 million last year.

On SWA/Namibia, Mr du Plessis said the R476.5 million provided in the budget was R169.5 million, or 55 per cent, more than in 1985/86.

"This sharp increase is not the outcome of large scale extensions but represents the transfer of the responsibility for the provision of certain services from the republic to South West Africa."

If these were left out of account, the increase was only 13.9 percent over the 1985/86 figure of R307 million.

Amounts of R36.3 million were needed for phase two of the compensation of operating losses on railway and road transport services within the territory; R30.5 million for the takeover from the South African Police of police services; and R60 million for foreign loans which had to be redeemed by SWA/Namibia in 1986/87.

Mr du Plessis said the estimates made provision for R5.233 billion for the servicing of public debt, of which R5.195 billion was for interest.

"The interest component is 11.9 per cent above the revised 1985/86 figure and 18.1 per cent above the budgeted figure.

"The increase arises chiefly from the rise in the average rate of interest on government loans."

The state aid to "marginal gold mines — stemming from a time when the price of gold was not market-related and intended as a bridging measure until it rose — would be ended and replaced by an ad hoc scheme judging individual cases on merit. [No end quotation marks as received]

As part of its industrial development strategy, the government had taken steps to provide a suitable mechanism to promote the development and transfer of technology, and had set aside R1.5 million for this in 1986/87.

On Government 'Upliftment' Program

MB171518 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1509 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Parliament, Mar 17, SAPA — The government's three-year "upliftment" programme would be spurred by further cuts in government expenditure and the encouragement of private sector investment in the capital market, the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said today.

Delivering his budget speech, he said large-scale investment in new undertakings and in the expansion of existing undertakings was needed to provide a basis for sustained economic growth and to create permanent job opportunities for the growing population.

"It is here where the econmic partnership between the public and the private sector must emerge more fully."

The government had decided to follow a two-fold approach in this regard.

Firstly, all capital expenditure by the public sector would be continually reviewed with a view to mplementing economically justified cuts.

"In this way, the public sector's claims on the capital market can be reduced so as to leave more room for investment by the private sector, with a view also to privatisation," Mr du Plessis said.

"It must, however, be clearly stated that, after other possible obstructions have also been removed, the private sector will be expected to make use of this greater scope for investment.

"Long-term projects will have to be tackled that will advance the economic development of all communities and underdeveloped regions and the country as a whole.

"Should this not materialise, the government will be obliged to take up the slack and embark upon the task of development itself, to avoid a charge of standing idly by in the face of the under-utilisation of scarce resources."

In this case, critics would not be able to indict the government for shackling private fixed investment through its own claims on the capital market.

Mr du Plessis said the second leg of the government's upliftment plan was the reduction of spending in the public sector.

"Public expenditure is like a fruit tree that ever grows and bears more leaves," he said. "It would seem that what we have done recently to trim the tree was merely shaking the tree until the leaves fell. But leaves grow again. The tree must certainly be pruned so as to make it smaller, but it must be expertly pruned if its fruit potential is not to be damaged. It must also be pruned continually, since unwanted leaves and offshoots are appearing all the time."

He said the government was serious in its intention to limit spending and had appointed a small, highly specialised task group to help meet its objectives.

The task group, cooperating with top management of government departments, would evaluate relevant aspects of current spending, especially services introduced over the years by the executive authority.

The task group would use various financial techniques such as zero base budget systems and would be on the lookout for chances to introduce user-charging, deregulation and privatisation.

Well-known professional and business leaders and other qualified people had agreed to join the task group and their names would be announced once they had familiarised themselves with their task.

On Provisional Tax Payments

MB171424 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1216 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Parliament, March 17, SAPA — The minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, today announced measures aimed at ensuring that provisional taxation accounts be settled earlier.

Introducing his budget, he said the proposed measures would not affect the total or final liability for taxation, but were merely a method to ensure earlier settlement.

In terms of the proposals:

— The total of the first, second and third payments of provisional tax by companies be increased from 90 per cent to 100 per cent of their actual tax liability, with proviso that if the payments amounted to more than the full liability, interest on the surplus would be paid by the state at the prescribed rate. This would apply to years of assessment ending on or after February 28, 1986.

— Provisional taxpayers (other than companies) whose taxable income exceeded R50,000, also be liable for the third payment of provisional tax. As this would be in respect of years of assessment ending on or after February 28, 1987. The first additional payment would be due in August 1987.

The minister said these earlier payments by companies should give the treasury an advanced cash flow of R291 million in 1986-87. The proceeds from individuals would first appear in the 1987-88 financial year.

On Working Wives' Tax Exemptions

MB171623 Johannebsurg SAPA in English 1345 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Parliament, March 17, SAPA — Twenty per cent or a minimum of R1,800 of working wives salaries will in future be exempt from tax.

This was announced by the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, today when he delivered his budget speech to Parliament.

This meant that a married women who presently earned R20,000 per annum would be able to deduct R4,000 as against the present R1,600.

"The entry of married women into the professional and labour market is a world-wide phenomenon, and one that in South Africa with its great shortage of skilled labour power is of growing importance," the minister said.

There were various schemes whereby the problems that had built up around the tax burden of married couples could be eliminated but each suffered from the disadvantage of an unacceptably high loss of revenue to the foscus.

"The search continues for an acceptable compromise between a theoretically sound and an affordable solution," Mr du Plessis said. It was being thoroughly researched by the Margo commission.

"In the meantime the problem of the additional sum that married couples must find on receipt of their assessment has aroused further emotions," he said.

The government had a close understanding of the position of the working wife and to provide interim relief for the working married couple the adjustments were proposed, the minister said. They would apply to the tax year that ended on February 20, 1986.

He said it should be noted that the large sums married couples stood to pay on assessment could not be blamed on the tax structure as such, but rather on the fact that the pay tables for women often did not provide for adequate deductions to meet the actual tax liability.

The commissioner for inland revenue was going to prescribe amended tables applicable to married woman which would come into force from 1st July, 1986 to provide for deductions more in line with the wife's portion of the tax payable on the joint income.

"From the point of view of the exchequer this advance on the collection of tax due will generate a cash flow of R50 million," Mr du Plessis said.

Reaction to Budget Presented by Du Plessis

Labor Party Welcomes Budget

MB171542 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1518 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 17, SAPA — The Labor Party "welcomed" the budget as presented by the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, with reservations over issues including inequality in pensions, the party leader, the Reverend Allan Hendrickse, said today.

The party recognised certain realities in terms of supply and demand, he said in a statement here.

"It is regretted that the R36.614 million needed for an increase in pensions and grants towards parity in five years has not been granted to us, but the perpetuation of the principle of equality in the increase of R18 is, however, welcome."

The Labour Party would examine the budget of the House of Representatives "to see whether we can fund a further increase in terms of our determination to reach parity".

"At the moment the gap still remains at R62 between the amounts received by whites (R198) and coloureds (R135) per month."

Mr Hendrickse welcomed the cancellation of the surcharge on books, saying it was an investment in the future, which he believed lay in education. It would also lead to cultural enrichment.

The availability of more money to finance job opportunities and create a source of income for the unemployed was "most welcome".

PFP's Schwarz Criticizes Budget

MB171725 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1703 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, Mar 17, SAPA — The budget announced today was an ad hoc measure that gave very little indication of any real assessment of priorities or long-term planning, the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] spokesman on finance, Mr Harry Schwarz, said today.

He said in a statement issued here that the budget contained very few measures to combat inflation and in many respects further stimulated inflationary tendecies. It did not cater in any meaningful way for the problems of the lower income groups, the unemployed and the impoverished, and its figures lacked credibility.

"The present budget shows numerous signs that the figures submitted are unrealistic and that the picture at the end of the year is likely to be quite different."

Mr Schwarz said any money available for tax concessions should have been used to reduce general sales tax [GST] in the light of the high inflation rate and the plight of lower income groups.

"In any event, the tax concessions for individuals are illusionary as the government intends to take, after the concessions, well over an extra R1 billion from the pockets of individual taxpayers by way of income tax compared to last year.

"To this must be added the increased GST of R1.3 billion which the government anticipates collecting this year."

Mr Schwarz said the funds allocated for combating unemployment were still inadequate. This was regrettable because unemployment was and would continue to be a major factor in the stability of the country.

While reflief for pensioners was welcome, it was difficult to understand that removal of race discrimination for military pensions was not also made applicable to war veterans and that the abolition of the means test for survivors of World War I was not extended to ex-servicemen from World War II.

The PFP was opposed to the concept of payroll tax when the need to create jobs was the obvious major priority. A turnover tax was not an equitable form of taxation and should not have been introduced before the report of the Margo commission on the tax structure. There were more equitable and more easily administered forms of taxation that could be made available to regional services councils.

Mr Schwarz said incentives to save and to form capital were inadequate in view of South Africa's serious international financial situation.

"This budget is an ad hoc affair which seeks to deal with a short-term situation and gives very little indication of any real assessment of priorities or long-term planning, despite the pious words in the budget speech.

"One cannot look at this budget in isolation but needs also to examine it in the light of all the other recent tariff and government-administered price increases.

"One sees nothing in this budget which shows imagination and realism to deal with the major threats to stability, and with the serious economic problems which threaten our ever-increasing population and its legitimate expectations."

Mixed Reaction in Parliament

MB180850 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1700 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Reaction to the new budget from political parties in Parliament has been mixed. Marius Kleynhans has this report:

[Begin video] [Kleynhans] In the House of Representatives, Mr Charles Redcliffe of the Labor Party said although priority had been given to socially orientated activities, it was unfortunate that the minister had been constrained to blow further light "as heard" into the economy by this country's inability to raise foreign loans.

The leader of the opposition in that house, Mr Dennis de la Cruz, was disappointed at the lowering of the bread susidy, but welcomed the tax concession for pensioners and married couples. The major parties in the House of Delegates welcomed the budget. The NPP [National People's Party] Mr. Boetie Abramjei, said the decision to peg taxes was indeed a relief to the tax paper, while Mr Kisten Moodley of the Solidarity welcomed the removal of the surcharge, but critical of the government's what he called failure "as heard" to address the underlying causes of inflation: apartheid and the duplication of services.

In the Assembly, the Conservative Party spokesman also accused the government of failing to curb inflation. Mr. Jan Zyl said that the middle and lower income groups would be severely affected. The NRP [New Republican Party], spokesman, Mr Derrick Watterson, said the budget proposals were dull and would not generate the enthusiasm and confidence that was necessary for a real, forward economic surge. The official opposition spokesman of finance, Mr Harry Schwarz, said there was nothing in the budget which showed the imagination and realism to deal with the major threats to stability and with the serious economic problems which threatened the ever-increasing population and its legitimate expectations. Mr Schwarz said a clear characteristic of the budget was the almost total absence of measures to combat inflation.

UDF: Aims To Update Apartheid

MB180835 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0834 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 18, SAPA — Yesterday's budget is "located within the context of (the state president, Mr P.W.) Botha's Rubicon II and aims at effecting the updating of apartheid," the UDF [United Democratic Front] said in a statement today.

The UDF said that short of rejecting the budget completely two major criticisms had to be made.

— It aimed at updating apartheid. "It is well known that Rubicon II was rejected by the UDF at the time. Being contained within the limited framework of Rubicon II this budget cannot conceivably contribute much towards the resolution of the political crisis of apartheid. This is reflected in the fact that total spending — about R360 million — on upgrading apartheid townships is only 12 per cent of the money allocated to defending the status quo."

— Contrary to (the minister of finance, Mr Barend) Du Plessis' claim that this budget aimed at meeting the needs of the people, "it in fact continues the trend of forcing the poorer sections of our population especially blacks to carry the major burden of apartheid."

The UDF said phasing out the bread subsidy and maintaining GST continued to constitute an attack on the already eroded standard of living for blacks.

"The greater burden on the black population is in stark contrast to the much lower proportion of total revenue contributed by companies especially the gold mines over the last five years."

The UDF said company tax rates had, in fact, been virtually unchanged in this budget. This was an attempt by an embattled government to stimulate economic growth, but the simultaneous adoption of monetary supply targets was likely to prove counterproductive.

"As a result of this policy, prospects are for increases in interest rates and inflation and further drops in employment and real wages. Together with this direct impact on the cost of living, the effects of this budget are likely to fuel political resistance rather than stem it. For any real solutions there have to be real changes to the system in this country. This budget, like previous ones, still refuses to address itself to this fact," the UDF said.

KaNgwane Government Says NIS Threatens Mabuza

MB180558 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0500 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The Government of KaNgwane claims the South African National Intelligence Service [NIS] has been interferring in the homeland's affairs since its chief minister returned from talks with the ANC. Carmel Rickard has the story.

[Rickard] In a statement by the KaNgwane Government released last night, the Cabinet claims the South African NIS has threatened KaNgwane leader Enos Mabuza, who recently had talks with the ANC in Lusaka. The Cabinet says that a certain Mr du Plessis, who has identified himself as a member of the NIS, has made menacing remarks about Mr Mabuza. This included a threat that Mr Mabuza was digging his own grave. The alleged agent went on to say: Either he will die or he will go to prison. We are looking for a leader to replace him. The Cabinet is to demand an explanation from the South African Government, and will protest to the South African commissioner general for KaNgwane against what it called the gross interference by the secret intelligence agency.

Bannings of Fazzie, Jack To Be Reconsidered

MB181128 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The chairman of the Association of Chambers of Commerce, Mr Rocky Ridgeway, says the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, has informed two Port Elizabeth businessmen that restrictions placed on two black community leaders will be reconsidered by a review committee if a written request is made in that regard.

Mr Ridgeway led a 4-member delegation of Port Elizabeth businessmen during talks in Cape Town with Mr Le Grange, regarding the recent restrictions placed on the chairman of the Port Elizabeth Youth Congress, Mr Mkhuseli Jack, and the vice chairman of the eastern Cape branch of the United Democratic Front, Mr Henry Fazzie.

The restrictions were imposed last Tuesday in terms of the Internal Security Act, and are applicable for 5 years.

Amanzimtoti Bomb Suspect Attacked in Court

MB180953 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0900 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] There has been drama in the Amanzimtoti Christmas bomb blast case as the man who admitted he planted the bomb has been attacked in court. Carmel Rickard reports:

[Rickard] The father of a teenaged girl who died in the blast threw a punch at the KwaMashu youth accused of laying the bomb. The man was wheeling his son from the court where he had been giving evidence when the incident occurred. Accused Andrew Zondo tried to jump backward from the dock to avoid the assault, and narrowly missed falling down the steps to the cells. At the same time, a man in the public gallery, referring to the accused, shouted: "Kill him." After order was restored, the presiding judge Ray Leon said no one was to lay a hand on the accused during the trial. Other people hurt in the explosion gave evidence today, including the mother of a woman expecting triplets, who is in danger of losing the babies following the blast.

Police Spokesman Comments on Guguletu Funeral

MB160558 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1822 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 16 SAPA — A teargas volley sent hundreds of Guguletu mourners running for cover at the end of yesterday's mass funeral which saw open defiance of a magisterial order banning any political content in speeches delivered during the service for seven alleged African National Congress guerillas.

An initial crowd of about 6,000 people swelled to 15,000 and then to over 30,000 — it was impossible to accurately estimate the final total — in a day which saw Guguletu become a virtual stronghold of the African National Congress.

But approached for comment this afternoon a police liaison office for the western Cape Lt Attie Aubscher stated categorically that, "We observed the crowd from our police helicopter and we estimated that there were not more than 3,000 people present at any stage of the funeral. To say there were 30,000 mourners is incorrect and false".

Security forces threw a solid cordon of casspirs, buffels, sneeze machines and police vans around the township, but non-residents and journalists proceeding to the funeral were allowed through after being warned that entry was at their "own risk".

The coffins of Mr Mandla Simon Mxinwa, Mr Zola Alfred Swelani, Mr Godfrey Jabulani Miqa, Mr Christopher Piet Mr Themba Mlifi, Mr Zabonke John Konile and Mr Themba Madiyane were draped with ANC flags throughout the ceremony.

Around 4pm, as a huge crowd marched into old Klipfontein road, about 2,000 mourners charged a police unit near the N2 highway. The police unit retreated to a casspir.

Around 5pm, when several hundred mourners marched singing to within about 100 metres of four casspirs and four vans at a police roadblock, police opened fire with a volley of teargas. As far as could be ascertained, no birdshot or rubber bullets were fired.

The 8am police unrest report from Pretoria said today that teargas was fired after police vehicles were stoned, but Lt Laubscher said today, "There were no stones thrown at the police. Police used minimum force by firing teargas at several hundred marchers who came within 50 metres of a police roadblock".

2,000 Haggie Rand Striking Workers Dismissed

MB171258 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1250 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 17, SAPA — Haggie Rand Limited today "considered as dismissed" 2000 workers who have staged a sit-in strike at the company's Jupiter and Germiston factories for almost two weeks. Company management had given the workers until midday today to return to work or face dismissal.

Mr Dave Thompson, group personnel manager for Haggie Rand, said: "The midday deadline has passed and the workers are considered as dismissed. We have not yet decided what action to take but we may know by this afternoon."

Earlier, he said the company may consider seeking a supreme court interdict to have the workers forcibly evicted but no decision had been reached yet.

Mr Bernie Fanaroff, national organising secretary of the Metal and Allied Workers Union [MAWU] — to which most of the workers belong — said they had met Mr John Feek, chairman of the board of Haggie Rand this morning and alleged he was "intractable and abusive."

"He said the company would not give in to the workers' demands and would rather dismiss them. We are sick and tired of the workers earning starvation wages when their company report showed that they increased their profits by 21 per cent since last year," Mr Fanaroff said.

He said MAWU had contacted the International Metalworkers Federation to inform them that they alleged much of Haggie Rand's products were exported to countries including Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Mr Thompson said about 60 workers had returned to work before the midday deadline.

Denying an earlier report that the company had lost "millions" due to the strike, Mr Thompson said: "We have been underutilising our capacity. We will have to make up these losses in the near future."

NUM 'Strongly' Condemns Blyvooruitzicht Management

MB171504 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1458 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 12, SAPA — The National Union of Mineworkers [NUM] today "strongly condemned" the actions of management at the Blyvooruitzicht gold mine near Carletonville where seven men were killed in clashes with police and mine security guards on Friday night.

Mr Marcel Golding, press officer for the NUM, said the 1500 workers, who had been on strike since last Sunday, were "intending to go to work on Friday night."

He said negotiations had been held between NUM and the workers and it had been agreed that they return to work.

"The unprovoked arrest of two shaft stewards on Friday angered the workers. We strongly condemn management's decision to call in the police because these uneccessary deaths could have been avoided."

Mr Golding said it was "sinister" that police were being used more and more often "to suppress purely industrial disputes."

He said the strike had been peaceful all week and accused mine management of "collusion" in the deaths of the four miners allegedly killed by police during the clashes. Two miners were found murdered in their hostels, and a security guard working on mine property, but not employed by the mine, was also killed.

About 7000 workers returned to work this morning, and a mine spokesman said they expected the night-shift of 1000 to work as well.

Intervention Prevents Orkney Mine Violence 16 Mar

MB171552 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1547 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 17, SAPA — Intervention by mine security officials and management prevented another outbreak of faction fighting at the Vaal Reefs mine near Orkney last night, the scene of clashes that left eight workers dead and at least 66 injured on Saturday, a spokesman for the Anglo American corporation, said today.

He said the "friction was apparently caused by provocation between various parties following alleged demonstrative action which referred to the deaths of four team leaders which had occured at No 5 Shaft Hostel on the night of February 18/19 this year."

The statement said the opposing groups which had started to confront each other were "timeously stopped by management." No injuries or deaths occured.

He said mine manager, Mr R.J. Fisher, and production manager, Mr J. Botha, together with other officials interviewed members of the opposing groups and "after prolonged discussions the morning shift went to work as normal".

The spokesman said all the shafts were quiet today and shifts were working normally.

Press officer for the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), Mr Marcel Golding, said he had heard that "there was some trouble at the mine last night but I cannot confirm this until our shop stewards report back later."

The eight workers were killed on Saturday night at the No 3 shaft after running battles between Xhosa and Sotho workers that left at least 66 injured.

Six Miners Killed 17 Mar

MB181022 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1018 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] [No dateline as received] — Six black mine workers were killed last night during fighting between Xhosa and Basotho employees at No. 5 Shaft Hostel of the west division of Vaal Reefs gold mine near Orkney, a spokesman for Anglo-American Corporation said in a statement this morning.

Eight were seriously injured and hospitalised and two are in a critical condition.

The intervention of the mine security and management prevented the fighting from continuing. Discussions were held with the two groups and about 1,250 miners have resigned. The employees' resignations are now being processed, the spokesman said.

The spokesman declined whether to say those that resigned were Basotho or Xhosa.

Body of Mamelodi Policeman Found With Bullet Wounds

MB171733 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1729 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 17, SAPA — The body of a police constable was found in his home in Mamelodi near Pretoria today, police said.

A spokesman for the Police Public Relations Division said investigations revealed the constable had bullet wounds. He added that a murder docket had been opened but investigations thus far could not link the death with unrest.

Police said the man's name has been withheld until his next of kin had been notified.

Saulsville Police Spray Teargas, Injure Children

MB171349 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1107 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 17, SAPA — Four Saulsville children had to be treated by a local doctor after teargas had been sprayed into their home on Saturday.

Kenneth Vukela (7) and his younger brothers, Lucas, Geoffrey and younger sister Irene, of 1 Masopha Street, were overcome by teargas sprayed into the house by policemen who had chased a group of youths. The children were playing in the house when the incident happened.

The youths ran into the house and locked the doors and only came out after police had sprayed teargas through the window.

Rosinah Vukela (16), said she was asleep in the bedroom when she heard a commotion. She said the bedroom was turned upside down during the tussle between the police and the youths.

Rosinah said she was questioned by the policemen who alleged that she was one of the youths they had chased. I pleaded with them and told them that I was not involved and they left me.

Alexandra Students Return to Classrooms

MB171222 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1119 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 17, SAPA — Pupils of Alexandra township, who had been boycotting classes since the outbreak of unrest in their residential area, flocked to their classrooms this morning in response to a call by their leaders and some community leaders.

Schools in the area had been completely deserted by pupils over the past four weeks as a protest against the detention of some of their colleagues.

High schools and secondary schools in the area reported an "encouraging turnout" this morning.

During last week pupils have been trickling back to their classrooms "but the attendance figures were nothing to write home about", one teacher said.

This morning's improved attendance is attributed to a meeting student leaders held on Friday to encourage their colleagues to return to their classrooms.

At the Realugile and the Minerva high schools half of their enrollments were registered this morning. They each had 540 out of 900 and 520 out of 1036, respectively.

Attendance at the Alexandra Secondary School was higher with 740 out of 1145. There were higher attendance figures at primary schools as these are generally regarded as being bullied by older pupils not to go to school.

Attendance figures, according to teachers, are expected to improve tomorrow as the hesitant pupils realise they have been left behind. It is expected that some pupils could have left the area, having been taken to other schools by their parents.

Organisations that were at pains to encourage pupils to return to their classrooms were the Alexandra Students Congress, Alexandra Youth Congress, the Alexandra Civic Association and the Alexandra Action Committee, the last two being adult organisations.

Teargas Canister Explodes at Railway Station

MB171405 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1400 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 17, SAPA — A teargas cannister was detonated in the charge office of the South African Railways Police at the Johannesburg station, causing pandemonium and forcing 100 children to flee the exclusive blue room before they had finished their meals, a railways police spokesman said today.

Major Dries Jacobs, liason officer in Johannebsurg, said the incident happened on Friday just before 3pm.

Fumes from the cannister prevented police from entering the charge office and Woman Constable Ems Myburgh collapsed and had to be carried out as she was in the office when the cannister was thrown.

About 100 school children fled the blue room and left meals valued at R200. The post office and railway cafeteria was closed until the fumes dissipated. Maj Jacobs said they were investigating the incident.

Police Defuse Limpet Mine Found in Cafe

MB171718 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1714 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 17, SAPA — A limpet mine was found in near [as received] a cafe and was defused by police in a nearby open piece of veld, police said today.

A spokesman for the Police Public Relations Division could not give details as to what time today or exactly where the mine was found.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 17 Mar

MB171706 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1705 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 17, SAPA — Here follows the unrest report up to 7pm issued by the SAP's Public Relations Division in Pretoria.

"At Mamelodi, near Pretoria, a group of blacks stoned an SAP vehicle. One black man was slightly injured when the SAP made use of shotguns.

"At Atteridgeville, near Pretoria, blacks petrol bombed and extensively damaged a delivery vehicle.

"At Dikane, near Hartbeesfontein, arsonists extensively damaged two lorries.

"At Umasizakhe, near Graaf Reinet, students of the Nqweba school are boycotting classes in sympathy with youths appearing in the circuit court on a charge of murder."

Report ends.

Early 18 Mar

MB180830 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0747 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 18, SAPA — The overnight unrest situation report to 8am from the SAP Public Relations Directorate in Pretoria follows:

"The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

"At Ikageng near Potchefstroom a lorry was damaged by arsonists.

"At Maraiplaas in the SWD (South Western Districts) a post office vehicle was stoned. During an incident when a bus was destroyed by arsonists, unknown persons from a mob shot at the driver and his white supervisors. The supervisors returned the shots with revolver fire. It is unknown if anyone was injured. In a number of incidents vehicles of the SAP were stoned. The SAP used shotgun fire to disperse their attackers. Three men and one woman were arrested. Another man was arrested when a mob barricaded a road. No injuries were reported.

"At Mamelodi near Pretoria roads were barricaded on three occasions and a private vehicle was destroyed by arsonists.

"At Zwide near PE (Port Elizabeth) a police vehicle was petrol-bombed and another stoned. A council member's home was petrol-bombed. Here the SAP used shotgun fire to defend the dwelling. No injuries were reported.

"At Soweto (PE) vehicles of the SAP and railway police were stoned and petrol-bombed. On two occasions shotgun fire was used to disperse the attackers. One man was fatally wounded.

"At Seisoville in the OFS [Orange Free State] the vehicle of a councillor was stoned. A youth was fatally wounded when the councillor used shotgun fire to disperse his attackers.

"In the black residential area Dennilton near Groblersdal, a number of private vechicles were stoned and petrol-bombed. On the main road near Groblersdal vehicles were stoned on two occasions. Two white women and a child were injured.

"At Kanon Qaba near Mossel Bay a vehicle of the SAP was forced to stop by a mob which stoned it. The SAP used shotgun fire and tearsmoke to disperse their attackers. Three men in the mob were injured."

Ends report.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report]

School Funds Scandal

Johannesburg *THE SUNDAY STAR* in English on 16 March reports on its front page that "millions of rands of taxpayers' money has been spent by the Transvaal Education department on secret subsidies for hundreds of white pupils from Zimbabwe and Botswana who are attending Government schools in the Northern Transvaal." At least R1.5 million has been paid out to cover boarding fees. "South African pupils, on the other hand, are not receiving any financial aid, and requests for help by some parents have been turned down." "The disclosures have shocked educationists and politicians. They are certain to have far-reaching political implications — at home and internationally — when the full extent of the secret subsidies and the reasons why they were allocated, become known." A related article reports that these subsidies were paid "apparently without the approval of the Transvaal Provincial Council," controlled by the National Party.

Tainted Money

David Breier, political correspondent, reports from Cape Town on page 2 that "a controversial decision has been taken to transfer control of millions of rand of 'tainted' apartheid money to the coloured and Indian chambers of Parliament. The white chamber has already decided to take its share. The money represents Government profits from the resale of 'group areas' properties expropriated mostly from black, coloured and Indian people over many years of Nationalist rule." A sum of R5 billion is at stake to be divided among the three "own affairs" administrations. Although some comes from treasury loans, a large amount represents "profiteering on the victims of forced removals under the Group Areas Act."

UK Actors Boycott

A report from London on page 6 says that members of Britain's Equity actors union are voting on a proposal "to impose a complete cultural boycott on South Africa. This would mean no films or television features whatsoever would be available for screening, and equity members could be prevented from appearing in South Africa until apartheid in all its forms has been dismantled." The referendum closes 9 April and the paper says there is "a very real chance" that it will be successful.

Mandela Opportunity

A report from Lusaka says the " 'window of opportunity' for the imprisoned African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela will not remain open indefinitely" according to "elements of the diplomatic community in Southern Africa." They noted that the Russians had rejected releasing any more dissidents, which would satisfy the conditions of the most recent South African offer. However, there was still a possibility that some compromise could be worked out on the renunciation of violence condition involving "more than one interpretation of the condition." Some diplomats believe the South African Government wants to release Mandela "but they do not want the release to be used by the ANC for its own tactical purposes."

'Wet Bag' Torture

Four witnesses testified in Johannesburg Regional Court that when arrested by police last year, they were not advised of the nature of the police investigation against them, had suffered the "wet bag" treatment, had been threatened with a 14-day detention and had suffered irritant gas, the paper reports on page 9. One person said the moistened canvas bag was placed over his head so he could not breath and he lost consciousness three times.

Brain Drain Boosted

On the same page, John Spira reports that "current Government policies actually encourage unnecessary emigration by providing a powerful financial incentive to do so." The chairman of Liberty Life Group told shareholders that in addition to the usual reasons for the brain drain, some people left in order to have "access to a measure of diversification of their assets," a not unreasonable objective in the current climate. He urged that the government take action "to place resident South Africans in no worse a financial position than those emigrating."

New PFP MP

"Firebrand Prog Mr Jan Van Eck says the tricameral Parliament is a 'parliamentary abortion' and a 'three-eyed monster.' He has now been nominated by the Progressive Federal Party as its candidate in Clarement — the seat vacated by Dr F van Zyl Slabbert. This means Mr Van Eck will almost certainly become a member of the 'parliamentary abortion,' " David Breier reports on page 10. His nomination and the nomination of Jasper Walsh to run for Dr Alex Boraine's seat in Pinelands "strengthened the new direction of the PFP, especially in the Cape, towards greater militancy outside of Parliament." Mr Van Eck has been spearheading the PFP effort to monitor police brutality.

New Johannesburg Mayor

The new Progressive Federal Party mayor of Johannesburg, Prof Harold Rudolph, is being counted on to cool feelings in the city, David Breier reports on page 12. Further school and consumer boycotts as well as strikes are anticipated and this could increase unrest. The city's centenary celebrations have been wrecked by a black boycott. Rudolph has said he wants to emphasize his "togetherness" theme; "I want to change the hearts and minds of the people. We can be united together in a common love of South Africa. Divided in bitterness and hatred, we will fall." However, the president of the Soweto Civic Association said the new mayor had so far made no impact on the people of Soweto.

Rule by 'Comrades'

In another article on the same page. Qwelane reports that "people in Kagiso and Munsieville in Krugersdorp on the West Rand claim that a group of men calling themsleves the 'Comrades' are governing their township." According to the talk in these townships, the Comrades are actually maintaining law and order and many residents "freely express gratitude for what they see as their sterling work," saying they are helping to clean up crime. The comrades " 'effectively took over' " the townships in December and since then there have been no murders or serious crimes. Furthermore, this phenomenon is spreading to other areas, such as the Eastern Cape. "People's Courts" hand out quick justice, and street committees are formed, with anonymous members, to run the affairs of the townships. If someone is detained, others fill in. Street committees kept records in Alexandra showing that 46 people had died even though police insisted the number was 22.

Inkatha-ANC Struggle

"Inkatha is locked in a life-and-death struggle with the African National Congress," David Breier reports on page 1 and 2 of the "Review" section. Both are beginning to achieve direct control over sections of what the Nationalist Party used to call "white South Africa." They are using different approaches, however, the Inkatha using the "so-called KwaNatal option in which it will probably control both KwaZulu and Natal jointly with the Natal Provincial Administration" and the ANC "comrades" "are in effective control of a number of black dormitory townships on the periphery of towns and cities in 'white' South Africa." Inkatha would like its option to move from being purely executive to having a legislature and it also wants it to be adopted as a model for all of South Africa. "But Inkatha's plans run directly counter to those of the ANC. The ANC warns that the KwaNatal option could become a seriously divisive element in South Africa. Similarly, Inkatha condemns the ANC's use of violence. So both Inkatha and the ANC reject each other's strategies as they strive for advantage."

Talks on ANC, Mandela

The Johannesburg *SUNDAY TIMES* in English for 16 March reports on page 1 that the possible release of Nelson Mandela and the future status of the ANC are again in the forefront after the visit of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group [EPG]. It is believed that the EPG submitted at least two substantive proposals involving the ANC to the government after "intensive and highly secret" discussions. The article says the EPG met Nelson Mandela on Wednesday "for several hours," "a significant concession by Pretoria to the visitors." The South African Government is reported to have been "much impressed" with the EPG's determination to maintain a low profile — "in marked contrast with, say, comparable visiting groups from the United States Congress."

Revolution in Universities

"A quiet revolution has begun in South Africa's universities. The Africanisation of the student body has begun," an article on page 2 reports. A paper produced by Dr James Moulder, director of public affairs at the University of Cape Town, says that by the year 2000 " 'there will be a steady decline in the number and proportion of white students.' " There are now 14,400 black matriculants and 26,800 white ones. The year 2000 is expected to see 25,500 white matriculants — a reduction caused by the drop in the white birth rate — while 41,800 blacks should matriculate.

Outcry Over Resettlement

Another article on page 2 says that a government program to resettle about 500 colored families now living in the riot-torn township of Alexandra is "enraging" a Conservative Party community on the North Rand. The site is a few hundred meters from two elite suburbs outside Pretoria and "enraged" citizens of the suburbs who believe the government is creating a Crossroads-style squatter camp with inadequate services and roads on their doorsteps. The office of the minister of constitutional development is preparing an announcement on the situation which is expected "next week."

Botha Unwelcome at Palme Funeral

THE SUNDAY TIMES reports on page 9 that State President P.W. Botha was one of only four world leaders officially declared unwelcome at the funeral of Swedish Premier Olof Palme. A spokesman for the state president's office had " 'no comment' " on the report.

Praise for Natal Indaba

Another editorial calls Natal's indaba next month an attempt by black and white South Africans "to secure their future through discussions without preconditions." The conference could result in a "political and economic model of surpassing importance for the whole country," and the government has the opportunity for "part-paternity in a brave new initiative."

Column on Government Mismanagement

In "Another View" column on the editorial page, Ken Owen says the government's capacity to shoot itself in the foot has become a national joke and an international legend. Leaving aside the catastrophic mismanagement of the central questions of South African policies, or the collapse of public and personal security, consider just the mismanagement of the economy. Since 1981 the gross domestic product has grown by 1.1 percent but the population has increased by more than 10 times that figure and the cost of government by nearly 100 times as much. "The trouble is not that President Botha doesn't know what to do; the trouble is that he doesn't know how to do it," Owen says. For his first 5 years in office he promised to cut the size of government and eliminate rompslomp [red tape]. "He didn't reorganize government; he simply stirred it a bit." As government grew, so did taxes and the cry of tax reform went up. "Under the guise of shifting taxes from producers to consumers, and thereby encouraging the production of wealth," the general sales tax was introduced. It quickly turned out to be an addition, not a replacement for the old income taxes. Again the budget went out of control and President Botha talked about stopping civil servants overspending. "It soon turned out that he knew no more about controlling spending than he knew about cutting rompslomp," Owen says. "Every six months brings another bright idea that didn't work. Mr Botha has perfected a system of rule by fits of inspiration." Even reform proceeds by fits and starts. The very idea of reform has been discredited by the spectacle of officials and politicians "wandering about the country trying ineptly to find somebody to negotiate with them" while the security forces systematically pick off the people "who might (if they cared to risk their lives) help to get a process of negotiation going." "Bad government is giving way to no government at all," Owen concludes.

Threat of Vigilantism

In an article on the editorial page, Brian Pottinger says "vigilantism has now become a threatening factor" in South Africa — matured in 18 months of simmering unrest and dedicatedly kept alive by a mix of revolutionary design, black frustration, state counterviolence and sidewalk brigandry. On one level is the "posturing neo-facists on the far right," reflecting the white right wing's lack of faith in the ability of the police to maintain order. "But it is within the black community itself that a virtually unrecorded war of increasing intensity is being waged between vigilantes and black political activists," Pottinger says. The death toll is mounting daily and the vigilantes are acting with "increasing openness." The profusion of vigilante action is leading to an "ominous swing in the black townships towards warlordism." If the drift continues, Pottinger says, the end scenario is grim: "The 'Beirutisation' of the country's black townships into competing but isolated family clans with little support in the communities. All this, meanwhile, overseen by what some would see as a manipulative police presence."

PFP's Schwarz on Discrimination

An article in the *SUNDAY TIMES* op-ed page by Harry Schwarz, Progressive Federal Party MP, says the entrenchment by law of discrimination has created the major problem in the eyes of not only the outside world, but in race relations in South Africa. "It is Parliament which has enacted these discriminatory laws; it is therefore for Parliament to repeal them." Members of the House of Representatives and House of Delegates have to demonstrate to their people why they are participating in the system, they have to produce beneficial results, Schwarz says. "The governing party owes it to those who have shown confidence by operating within Parliament not to block the move to appoint a committee to review all laws with a view to removing all discriminatory provisions." Discriminatory provisions must not be replaced by provisions "which are viewed, rightly or wrongly, as entrenching a privilege in another way. If apartheid goes, it must really go and not re-appear in a less ugly guise," Schwarz concludes.

Namibian Lessons for RSA

Writing on the lessons the Namibian experience holds for South Africa, political correspondent Max du Preez says on the op-ed page that the "ridding of pass laws, homelands, exclusive residential areas and segregation in public facilities has taken away a lot of the hatred and frustration in Namibia." Windhoek has a "fairly large black middle class" that has become "remarkably moderate" as their socio-economic position and prospects have improved. Du Preez cautions, however, that though SWAPO has been beaten on the battlefield, there is "no sign that the movement's internal political support has waned in the least." He attributes this is part to the low credibility of the security forces among the population. "Hatred for the South African security forces still accounts for the single most important unifying factor among black revolutionaries." The security forces' strong-arm tactics have been the most counter-productive action over the last two decades and its assessments, and consequently, advice to the South African Government, "have often been off mark. A cautionary lesson about an increasing military role in South African politics is thus sounded." Many blacks, Du Preez syas, still feel enslaved and oppressed despite the fact that the government is predominatly black. "What they seem to need is a symbolic gesture or happening to release that emotional feeling of 'being liberated.' " Many people are asking whether they can afford to do without the leadership qualities of the external SWAPO leadership. "The dilemma, in the South African context, is equally acute," Du Preez concludes.

Locust Plague

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 13 March reports on page 1 that the present locust plague is one of the worst the country has experienced in the past 100 years, and the government has 2,500 people working full-time trying to control the locusts which are now threatening one-third of the country's land surface. Reporter Hendrik van der Walt says the insects are now infesting the Western Transvaal and Northern Organge Free State, the country's major food-growing region.

VADERLAND on Natal Option

In an editorial on page 8 the paper says any attempt to create workable structures in South Africa through negotiation is to be welcomed, and the Natal-KwaZulu efforts is one such. "This is also the region with a totally unique compositon, problems, and circumstances. And that is precisely the characteristic of South Africa. The variety of peoples, circumstances, and even geographical factors mean a uniform system for the whole country is not possible." The paper says it believes the attempt should be given a chance to prove itself.

Reaction to Subsidies

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 17 March reports on page 4 that a Transvaal executive committee member in charge of education has promised to personally investigate reports that white students from Zimbabwe and Botswana were receiving preferential subsidies. "Educationists in Pretoria, asked to comment on the situation — if it really existed — said they could see no harm in it." These students had traditionally gone to school in the Transvaal because the schools were better, they said. One teacher said the report was "an irresponsible action by the newspaper to try and stir up trouble for white parents in Botswana and Zimbabwe, and between South Africa and those countries."

TV Blockade

In its editorial on page 6, the paper discusses the possibility that U.S. and British films will be banned from South Africa, saying that the country can do without American films and other "contributions to plastic living." However, those who wish to ban the films should note that programs featuring black actors break down stereotypes in the country and that SABC-TV "also helps to break down prejudices with black presenters and a mixing of the races that would have been unheard of a couple of years back." However, "having anything to do with South Africa is regarded as a contribution to the maintenance of the apartheid system, which is a balderdash." "Our view is simple: There should not be any bans on television features because such bans serve no purpose, are counterproductive, hit all sections of the community and deprive people of freedom of choice." Tightening restrictions on plays would be a "disgrace" "for the stage has led the way in the breakthrough against apartheid and theatre here is mostly integrated."

CITIZEN on Crocker

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 15 March carries an editorial on Dr Chester Crocker's statement reported in the *WASHINGTON POST* that the U.S. favored majority rule in South Africa and the White House statement that he had been trapped into making the statement. "As an experienced diplomat, he does not fall into any trap set by anyone, least of all Congressman Wolpe," the paper says. "Dr Crocker, when he slams South Africa, or when he talks of majority rule, knows what is expected of him" at a time when the administration is under pressure to impose more sanctions. "But it is a dangerous game. South Africa is not going to hurl in the towel for the sake of America." "We had better wake up to the fact that America's interests in this region do not coincide with ours, and while America says we must decide for ourselves what kind of country we want to have, it wants majority rule. Dr Crocker was not trapped into saying that. He meant what he said."

Alexandra Councillor Quits

Albert Maphala, a member of the Alexandra Town Council, resigned this week, bringing the number of councillors who have resigned to four, Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 17 March reports on page 3. The resignation was welcomed by the president of the Alexandra Youth Congress. Maphala's resignation "left the council near collapse as other councillors expressed their wish to quit." If one more resigns, the council will not be able to form a quorum. In Benoni, the first chairman of the local village council said he would resign this week.

SOWETAN on Violence

In its editorial on page 4, the *SOWETAN* expresses concern about the recent petrolbombings as well as the clash between police and miners at the Blyvooruitzicht mine. "We are afraid the minister of law and order has lost control of his ability to contain the countrywide violence. This is caused by the fact that violence has become the norm in most incidents in which blacks are involved." The paper is surprised to what extent police are protected, both in South Africa and abroad. "In this country particularly the type of clout they have has forced them to believe they are the actual rulers. This is totally unacceptable and if the police cannot be held accountable for the increase in tension countrywide, then the minister concerned should resign."

Teachers Join Struggle

"The African Teachers' Association of South Africa (ATASA) has finally crossed the line and thrown its lot behind the black political struggle against apartheid," Themba Molefe reports in a "Focus" article on the same page. ATASA's decision to break links with the Department of Education and Training "is the most radical by the formerly conservative ATASA since it was established in 1921." It delivered the government a "devastating blow" at a time when it is faced with its worst crisis in black education since 1976. Said the ATASA president: " 'We realised that we were working away from the people. We now want to work for an education system which will involve the people from grassroot level. The people must control their education, which is in the hands of a few who decide for us.' "

CAPE TIMES on Bannings

Commenting on page 8 on the banning of two Eastern Cape black leaders, the Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English for 14 March says as usual, "it is not just the government that suffers when it shoots itself in the foot, but the country as well." Dr Chester Crocker, "the man who was prepared to help win South Africa time and support while it worked out its problems no longer believes the government means what it says." The Port Elizabeth bannings, the editorial concludes, shows the government is "not prepared either for real negotiation or real power-sharing. That worries Dr Crocker. It should make South Africans genuinely concerned about the future of their country."

Editorial on TV, Violence

Applauding the home affairs minister for withdrawing the expulsion order against three CBS television newsmen, another editorial says that violence has nevertheless continued unabated in the townships despite the prohibition on TV teams. The only difference is that viewers are "no longer horrified" by the excesses which simply take place out of sight of all but the township residents. It is significant, the editorial says, that despite the presence of the CBS crew at Alexandra, no outbreaks of violence occurred. "Equally significant, the police kept away from the funeral proceedings."

Letter From Police Commissioner

The *CAPE TIMES* prints on page 8 a letter from the commissioner of police, General P.J. Coetzee, criticizing the paper for adopting "for a long time now" a "very biased and slanted attitude towards the South African Police in both your editorial comment and your news presentation of factual events." The letter says the *CAPE TIMES* has adopted a policy of " 'trial by newspaper' " and criticizes coverage by the paper of a shootout in Guguletu earlier this month between police and a "group of armed men." Accusing the paper of publicly expressing its "disregard for the police-press agreement by failing to comply with the accreditation of certain journalists" he says: "I no longer see any reason why the South African Police should allow the *CAPE TIMES* access to any information regarding police matters."

Outlook for Rand

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English for 17 March reports on page 1 that "Economic Opinion," the organ of the merchant bank Senbank, says in its March issue that the rand, while currently undervalued and having scope for some recovery, is in the longer term "likely to succumb to the pressures of high inflation, balance-of-payments difficulties, and political uncertainty." The argument is based on the theory of purchasing-power parity, in this case the ratio of the wholesale price of South Africa's traded goods against those of the United States, and the concept of real effective exchange rates. Both indicators reveal that the commercial rand is below its true value and could appreciate. The report declares that if foreign trade is to expand, particular care must be shown to create a stable climate in the forex market. The rand's future health will also depend on its breaking the grip of a deteriorating balance of payments.

Comment on Cultural Boycott

BUSINESS DAY comments on page 6 that South Africans tend to "shrug off" the growing cultural boycott as being of little import. Government, it says, "is no less out of touch," perhaps even more so. "This state of affairs is the direct result of 40 years of increasing isolation, both self-imposed and externally imposed." TV has now become the main source of information and entertainment for 70 percent of the white population, but SABC presents a "carefully laundered" view of the world. Overseas, the people who should be at the forefront of opening wider our window on the world have being doing the opposite. "We don't question the sincerity of actors and actresses who would like to stop all foreign TV programmes being broadcast in this country. What we do question is their good sense," the editorial says. They have the right to do what they will with the proceeds of their endeavors — "including donate them to the ANC, as the cast of TV's 'Cagney and Lacey' series intend. But if they have any commitment to peaceful evolution, they should be dissuaded from steps to further isolate this ocuntry. Cultural boycotts achieve nothing that is good."

Liquidations, Insolvencies Rise

An article on page 7 reports that 3,061 companies were liquidated in 1985 compared with 2,675 in 1984. Quoting figures from the Central Statistical Service the article says voluntary liquidations last year totalled 1,047 and compulsory ones 2,014. The number of insolvencies nearly doubled in 1985 to 3,221 compared with 1,637 in 1984.

Councils Disband

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans of 14 March reports on page 8 that that only 33 of the 193 community councils have had to disband due to the unrest situation. This was said by Mr Tom Boya, chairman of UCASA [Urban Councils Association of South Africa], when he addressed the union of development studies at the Rand Afrikaans University. On the opposition in black residential areas to the local community councils, Mr Boya said: " 'Even though it is true that blacks do not have representation in the government, we had to go in, because someone has to provide the services needed at local level.' " He added that much could be achieved, even through the present system. He said that the unrest would not end until apartheid was abolished and political prisoners released.

TRANSVALER Asks West's Aid

An editorial on page 10 of Pretoria *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans on 14 March says it remains a battle to persuade the outside world, which is forever pushing us toward political reform, to consider other forms of involvement here. It says Dr Jan Steyn, of the Urban Foundation, last week asked Western countries to make meaningful investments in South Africa, not for the sake of the whites, but in order to help erase the socioeconomic disadvantage of the nonwhite masses. But the West, says the paper, is "so set on 1-man, 1-vote and political gain that they totally ignore the need for social upliftment as a part of the reform process. Indeed, they even harm the task of upliftment by their disinvestment and boycotts."

ZAMBIA

Party Secretary Zulu Returns From Moscow

MB111753 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] Party Secretary General Grey Zulu arrived back home today from Moscow where he attended the 27th CPSU Congress. Speaking on arrival, Mr Zulu who was accompanied by the chairman of the legal and political subcommittee, Mr Daniel Lisulo, said one of the major accomplishments of the congress was the declaration by the USSR that it would abolish the use of lethal weapons by the year 2000. Mr Zulu said the USSR would also halt all nuclear tests, as well as the use of chemical warfare. The party chief said [words indistinct] the congress [words indistinct] was met at the airport by Prime Minister Kebby Musokotwane, Secretary of State for Defense and Security Alex Shapi, and senior party and government officials.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 MARCH 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi naval forces sank a "medium-sized maritime target" southeast of the Nowruz oil fields 18 March, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Other Iraqi military statements cited by INA later announced that 46 Iraqi planes attacked and destroyed Iranian military concentrations between Hamidiyeh and Ahvaz, while other Iraqi planes raided Khark Island 19 March.

For its part, Iran claimed that over 50 Iraqi troops were killed or injured during an Iranian patrol operation north of the "salt lake" on the al-Faw front the night of 18-19 March, according to a military statement reported by Tehran radio. In Tehran, the military information headquarters warned that Iran would "heavily pound" industrial targets in Iraq if attacks on non-military targets in Iran continued, IRNA reported.

Libya

Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio broadcast the political communique issued at the end of the second conference of the International Center for Combating Imperialism, Zionism, Racism, Reaction, and Fascism, which was held in Tripoli 15-18 March. In the communique the conference hailed Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's stance in confronting U.S. "aggressive threats and provocative maneuvers" off the Libyan coast, and it stressed that the Gulf of Sidra "is part of the Libyan Arab territories and is thereby under absolute Libyan Arab sovereignty." The conference also called for the formation of a new international organization that would embody "the will of the vanquished, small, peace- and justice-loving nations" and act as an alternative to the United Nations.

Chad

The attack by Chadian Government forces on the command post of the "Islamic Legion" at Chicha 17 March resulted in the death of 235 members of the "Libyan annexationist army," including 19 Libyans, and the capture of 186 war prisoners, according to a Chadian military communique broadcast by Ndjamena radio.

French Train Blast Claimed

The "Committee of Solidarity With Arab and Middle-East Political Prisoners" claimed responsibility for a bomb which exploded on board a French TGV high-speed train outside Paris 17 March, injuring 10 people, AFP reported. The group sent a letter to AFP warning of further attacks unless 3 Lebanese and Armenian prisoners being held in French jails were released, the report added.

French Hostages in Lebanon

Unofficial French envoy Razzah Ra'd said he is "suspending" his efforts to free the French hostages held in Lebanon because of the French Government's failure to clear up some "false allegations" concerning his role, Paris radio reported. Ra'd added that someone pretending to be him had disseminated "disinformation" to a news agency in Beirut in order to eliminate his credibility with the "fundamentalists." Meanwhile, the French Embassy in Lebanon received information that Iran has instructed Hizballah party gunmen to "kidnap more Frenchmen," Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

OPEC Affairs

An OPEC agreement on ways to bolster the current oil market is "further away than ever," Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali Al Khalifah said at the OPEC conference meeting in Geneva, AFP reported. He also claimed that "if Norway and Britain will not cooperate, we will not make much progress" in increasing crude oil prices, AFP added. At a new conference the evening of 18 March, OPEC Conference President Arturo Hernandez Grisanti confirmed that the OPEC ministers have thus far made "no major decisions," OPECNA reported. Hernandez also announced that five OPEC ministers are to meet with representatives of the five non-OPEC oil-producing countries of Angola, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico, and Oman 19 March. In Riyadh, an official Saudi spokesman said that the allegation by Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i that Saudi Arabia is exporting three times as much oil as its OPEC quota is "absolutely untrue" and that in reality the Kingdom is exporting only one-half of its OPEC quota, Riyadh radio reported.

DRA-Pakistan

Four DRA planes bombed the Karshia border post in the Kurram area of Pakistan 18 March, killing 5 paramilitary troops and wounding 14 others, AFP reported citing sources in Peshawar.

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'Arafat Said Willing To Resume Talks With Husayn

Voiced During Yugoslav Visit

LD191018 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0102 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Dubrovnik, March 18 (TANJUG) — Yugoslav Presidency President Radovan Vlajkovic and Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat met tonight in Kupari, a resort near Dubrovnik. 'Arafat arrived on a brief official and friendly visit to Yugoslavia today.

During the meeting, which took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, Vlajkovic and 'Arafat discussed the latest situation in the Middle East following the unilateral break of the dialogue between King Husayn of Jordan and the PLO, developments on the Iraq-Iran front, and the situation in the Mediterranean.

A more active role of the nonaligned countries in resolving the these issues prior to their summit in Harare and relations between Yugoslavia and the PLO were also discussed.

Following the talks, Vlajkovic gave a formal dinner for 'Arafat during which they exchanged toasts.

'Arafat told Vlajkovic he was ready for further talks with Jordan provided the fundamental legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, above all its right to self-determination, were fully respected.

Recalling that the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue had been broken off unilaterally by King Husayn, 'Arafat said that Arab countries would soon discuss the latest developments in Palestinian-Jordanian relations.

On the situation in Lebanon, the PLO leader said that efforts were being made to protect the Palestinian camps in that country. He stressed that the political situation there must be resolved without foreign interference.

Vlajkovic and 'Arafat reiterated that the Iran-Iraq war must be brought to end as soon as possible. They said that the war was harmful to the action capability of the Nonaligned Movement and that it might spill over and involve extra-regional factors.

On the Nonaligned Movement, Vlajkovic and 'Arafat stressed that it must become more active in all "spheres." They pointed out the importance of next month's ministerial meeting in New Delhi and the preparations for the summit in Harare .

In connection with the situation in the Mediterranea, 'Arafat conveyed the PLO's support for the Presidency of Yugoslavia's statement that tension in the region must be eased. In this, it was said, nonaligned countries should play a special part.

The talks were attended by Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Raif Dizdarevic and head of the PLO representative office in Yugoslavia Nimr Hammad.

Trip to Jordan Expected

GF190738 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0718 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Dubayy, 19 Mar (WAKH) — An informed Palestinian source has stated that he expects Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, to visit Amman before the end of March to resume dialogue with King Husayn of Jordan.

The Dubayy-based newspaper *AL-BAYAN* today quotes this source as saying that the Jordanian king, who last month halted coordination with the PLO leadership, has backed down on this decision in response to Egyptian mediation between Jordan and the PLO.

However, a Jordanian official ruled out the possibility of a visit by 'Arafat this month. He said, however, that Egypt has in fact been mediating between Jordan and the PLO for some time.

Fatah Official Offers Views in University Lecture

GF181301 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 18 Mar 86 pp 1, 8

[Text] Al-'Ayn — Mr Salah Khalaf [Abu Iyad], Fatah Central Committee member, has affirmed that the next period of the struggle of the Palestinian people will witness an intensified escalation against the Zionist enemy.

In a lecture he delivered at UAE University last night as part of the cultural season of the university, he said that all the Palestinians who left Beirut following the siege of the Lebanese capital in 1982 have returned to the places from which they can direct and escalate the resistance operations against the Zionist enemy. Abu Iyad has accused the United States of being behind the sending of the Fedayeen from Beirut to the Arab countries in 1982. Salah Khalaf spoke about the relations which link Jordan with the Palestinians. He said that the PLO does not want to open a new front with Jordan, referring in this regard to the everlasting relations between the two peoples. He added that the Palestinian revolution is the first to confront any aggression against any Arab country, affirming the continuation of the revolution despite all difficulties.

Abu Iyad said there is no revolution which adheres only to military action; this would be a revolution that adheres to fighting for the sake of fighting. Therefore the PLO must resort to political action to harvest the fruit of the military action it has begun. He added that the Palestinian revolution must be part of our Arab arena whether or not we like this arena. He referred to the circumstances which made the PLO resort to political action. He referred to the departure of Egypt from the Arab ranks and the gap which occurred in the Arab nation as a result. He explained that the Devresoir enclave is more political than military. Concerning the split movement in Fatah, Abu Iyad said: They were good chaps, but they misunderstood the equation. The split is dead. Regarding the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, Abu Iyad said: We are not governed by the place, but we govern the place. He said that some have tried to find a new conflict inside the Palestinian rank by creating a conflict between those who support the agreement and those against it. But we say to them we may be in conflict and we may struggle among each other but we do so from one unified ground.

Concerning the Iraq-Iran war, he said that the Palestinian revolution is doing all it can to stop the internal bleeding and the continuation of the war, and that it is working at the same time to contain the Arab splits so that all efforts could be mobilized against the same enemy.

In conclusion, Abu Iyad affirmed that the PLO's program is to fight the enemy and to stop the internal bleeding. He also affirmed that the Palestinians will allow any party to approach any Arab country because they are the soldiers of any Arab country facing foreign aggression.

Meets Press on Iran-Iraq

GF181703 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Al Ain, 18 Mar (WAKH) — Member of the Fatah Central Committee Salah Khalaf affirmed that the PLO was exerting efforts to prevent the expansion of the Iraq-Iran war as a first step and putting an end to this stupid war "through peaceful means as a second step."

Addressing a press conference here, Khalaf, known as Abu Iyad, emphasised the importance of the military operations and said the political moves will not succeed without military backing.

Abu Iyad said the PLO revolution was based several elements including the achievement of the national unity, and Arab solidarity.

Asked about the organization's position towards the Syrian-backed Lebanese agreement, Abu Iyad said the PLO supports any solution that would put an end to the civil war in that Arab country.

But he said the agreement included negative points such as the presence of Elie Hobayka, commander of the Sabra and Shatila massacres against the Palestinians.

PLF Central Committee Issues Statement on PLO

JN182031 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1713 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The Central Committee of the Palestinian Liberation Front [PLF] ended its meetings yesterday during which it discussed developments related to the Palestine cause and the Palestinian situation on Arab and international levels. At the end of the meetings, the PLF issued a statement which said:

The PLF Central Committee followed with pride and appreciation the united popular rally of the masses of our people in the occupied territory around the PLO and the escalation of struggle on all levels against the Zionist enemy, its repressive measures, its seizure of land, and its plot of administrative self-rule.

The Central Committee studied with great concern the stands announced by King Husayn during his speech on 19 February, including their dimensions and affects on the course and future of relations between the Jordanian Government and the PLO. The Central Committee highly praises the statement issued by the PLO Executive Committee in Tunis on 9 March and its clear emphasis on national basic principles, especially its defense of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people everywhere, its opposition to alternative leaderships, its rejection of any encroachment on the Palestinian right to self-determination, and its rejection of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 because they bypass the Palestinian people's rights. The Central Committee believes that this statement exposes the U.S. stand hostile to our people's cause and that it refuses to justify this stand and blame the PLO.

On the Arab level, the PLF Central Committee reviewed developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and the recent aggression against fraternal Iraq's territory. The committee studied the dimensions, objectives, and dangers of this aggression. It praised the heroic steadfastness of the Iraqi Army and Iraq's brave defense of Arab territory. The committee expressed its deep satisfaction over the results of this steadfastness confronting the dangers threatening Arab soil, pan-Arab unity, and situation in the region in the face of the imperialist-Zionist onslaught. The Central Committee believes that safeguarding the interests of the Iraqi and Iranian peoples, the Arab nation, the Islamic people, and the Palestine cause calls for responding to Iraq's stands in order to resolve the conflict through peaceful means and to establish relations on the basis of mutual respect, neighborliness, and noninterference in internal affairs.

Reviewing Jordanian-Palestinian relations, the PLF statement said that Palestinian-Jordanian relations as approved by successive national meetings were not a sudden development. In addition to their special, historical nature, these relations were based on Arab resolutions, particularly the Fes and Rabat summit resolutions.

Concerning the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and Arab moves for peace in accordance with the principle of realizing the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights, mainly their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent national state, the PLF expressed its rejection of UN Resolutions 242 and 338 and stressed Palestinian and Arab efforts to reject alternatives to the PLO, self-rule, the Reagan plan, and an alternative homeland as expounded by Sharon.

It said that the Palestinian right of self-determination is not an internal matter between Jordan and the PLO, but is the essential factor in the Arab struggle against the Zionist enemy as approved by the Arab League and the United Nations and on whose bases rests the national struggle of the Palestinian people in confronting the Zionist-imperialist plot. The special historical relations between Jordan and the PLO affirm and support this right and cannot be a factor in diminishing this right.

The PLF affirmed that the framework of a solution for the Palestinian problem under current Arab and Palestinian circumstances necessitates convening an international conference in which the USSR and the PLO must be basic partners. This conference must be convened in accordance with a definite formula and must have definite agreed-on powers. It should not be understood as an international umbrella under the auspices of and in accordance with the concepts of U.S. imperialism with the aim of implementing the Zionist enemy's terms for a solution to the region's problem and for reaching separate deals. Joint relations and coordination must necessarily be directed against the U.S. bias toward the Zionist enemy and should not impose concessions on the PLO in the interest of the U.S. position.

Concluding its statement, the PLF Central Committee said that based on national and pan-Arab factors, in order to face the Zionist aggression and the U.S. campaigns of terror and in view of the response to these campaigns by some Arab regimes, the PLF Central Committee is proud of the adherence of our masses, particularly those inside the occupied homeland, to the PLO and their cohesion within its ranks to protect its courageous national position and role and affirm our people's response to the motto: The PLO is the people and the people are the PLO.

Palestinian Revolution Forces Bomb Israeli Factory

JN181836 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1713 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] A spokesman for the general command of the Palestinian revolution forces has stated the following: One of our combat groups operating inside the occupied homeland planted incendiary explosive charges in a Zionist factory in the Bene Beraq settlement north of Tel Aviv. The explosive charges went off last night, causing heavy damage to the Zionist factory, starting a big fire in it, and killing or injuring a large number of Zionist enemy personnel. A large force from the army, police, and so-called border guard immediately cordoned off the area and launched a large-scale search and arrest campaign in Palestinian circles on the pretext of complicity in the operation. Despite these Zionist measures, our combat group succeeded in withdrawing from the operation area safely. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The general command of the Palestinian revolution forces.

Joint Forces Attack Position in South Lebanon

JN181858 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1713 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The Palestinian-national Lebanese joint forces last night attacked a Zionist military position near the village of Bayt Lif in southern Lebanon with machineguns and rockets. The position was heavily damaged, a Zionist jeep was damaged, and a number of Zionist soldiers were killed or wounded.

In another operation yesterday, the joint forces shelled with katyushas a Zionist-Lahd position on Tallat 'Aynan mountain in southern Lebanon. The position was heavily damaged and a large number of enemy personnel and agent elements were killed or wounded.

The joint forces attacked other positions in southern Lebanon belonging to the Zionist occupation forces and their agent militias. Also, several villages in the south received Zionist artillery shelling causing material damage.

Reports from the south said that the joint forces launched an attack early yesterday morning on the gateway to the so-called security strip in Al-Bayyadah region on the coastal road between Tyre and Ra's al-Naqurah. The reports added that the joint forces succeeded in destroying the gateway guard post and killing or wounding all the Zionist soldiers and militiamen of the so-called army of southern Lebanon at the post. The reports further said that the occupation forces retaliated by shelling nearby areas and villages.

Five OPEC Countries To Meet Non-OPEC Producers

LD182240 Vienna OPECNA in English 2212 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 18 Mar. 86 (OPECNA) — A group of five OPEC ministers will hold a meeting with representatives of non-OPEC oil producing countries Wednesday [19 March], OPEC conference President Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti announced tonight.

The five OPEC ministers will be from Indonesia, Libya, Nigeria, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela, while the non-OPEC countries will consist of Angola, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico and Oman. The meeting will be preceded by a full conference of OPEC ministers which the five non-OPEC representatives have been invited to attend. The OPEC ministers will reconvene following their meeting with their non-OPEC colleagues.

The two groups of ministers are expected to discuss all "important issues" involved in current attempts to stabilize the oil market and strengthen prices.

Hernandez told a press conference late this evening that the ministers had taken "no major decisions" so far.

He said they had, however, considered a report prepared by a group of experts, set up Monday to reassess the technical aspects of the world oil supply and demand situation for 1986.

"We began to analyze the report and discussed various aspects," he added.

He said OPEC ministers were convinced that gradually other non-OPEC countries would show an inclination to cooperate with the organization in its efforts to stabilize the oil market.

'Restricted' OPEC Session Fails To Reach Agreement

AU182038 Paris AFP in English 2035 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 18 (AFP) — OPEC oil ministers failed to strike agreement on policies to stabilize the world oil market at a two-hour "restricted" session here late Tuesday [18 March].

Algerian Energy Minister Belkacem Nabi emerged from the meeting shortly after 2015 GMT saying the ministers had "not yet" any deal in hand. It was the third day of talks for the 13-nation organisation, meeting in an emergency session in an effort to stabilise oil prices, which have more than halved since December.

GULF DAILY NEWS: OPEC Reconsidering Price War

GF190520 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 19 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] OPEC appeared last night to be backing away from its oil-price confrontation with Britain and other rival producers.

It remained unclear, however, whether the 13-member cartel could reach agreement in Geneva on a common strategy to reverse the collapse in oil prices.

Most OPEC leaders remained out of public view yesterday, but statements from key delegations indicated the organisation may be willing to cut its oil production without insisting on similar actions by its non-OPEC rivals.

The sentiment, emerging after two days of talks, pointed to a retreat from an earlier OPEC vow to defend its "fair share" of the oil market, even at the cost of a price war with independent producers.

The key to this apparent shift in approach was a report that Saudi Arabia now favoured reinstating the cartel's recently-discarded production ceiling of 16 million barrels a day.

A Saudi Government statement said: "The Kingdom sees the best solution for settling differences among member states lies in convincing all of the necessity of abiding by the production ceiling by which quotas have been distributed."

The official OPEC production ceiling was set in October 1984 with quotas for each member country. It has been ignored since last December.

Demand for OPEC oil is expected to slump to 15 million barrels daily this spring.

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister, PDRY Counterpart Discuss Issues
LD181358 Kuwait KUNA in English 1238 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 18 (KUNA) — Foreign Minister of the Yemen Arab Republic 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali discussed the Gulf war and Yemeni-Kuwaiti "distinguished" bilateral relations with Kuwait's deputy premier, foreign minister Shayk Sabah al-Ahmad, the Yemeni official (?said) after the meeting.

Al-Dali told KUNA that he and Shaykh Sabah reviewed the Iran-Iraq war escalation and examined initiatives aimed at bringing the destructive conflict to a solution that would ensure the security of countries of the region.

Al-Dali who arrived here from Riyadh Monday for a 24-hour visit, earlier today delivered a message from Yemeni president Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas to H.H. the Amir during an audience and was later received by H.H. crown prince, prime minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah.

The Yemeni official added that he and Shaykh Sabah touched on "developments in the Arab world and underlined the need for action to cement Arab solidarity."

Al-Dali, meanwhile, described ties between Kuwait and Aden as "distinguished" and praised Kuwait's "fraternal" attitude toward the January coup in Aden.

(?Kuwait's) responsible position on the recent events in Aden testified to a keen interest for maintaining sisterly ties between the two countries," he said.

The meeting was attended by Kuwait's foreign undersecretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, the Yemeni ambassador to Kuwait 'Abd al-Wahid al-Fa'ri and members of the delegation accompanying Al-Dali.

PDRY Minister Departs
LD181933 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1616 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 18 Mar (KUNA) — PDRY Political Bureau member and minister of foreign affairs, Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali left the country this afternoon at the end of a 24-hour visit, which concluded his tour to five GCC member-countries out of the six. The one left out was the Sultanate of Oman.

Dailies Quote Minister on Amnesty Plan
LD190937 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0805 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, 18 Mar (KUNA) — Three Kuwaiti dailies today quoted PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali as saying that the new leadership in his country is about to issue a general amnesty with regard to those who were arrested during the events in South Yemen which led to the expulsion of former President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

AL-SIYASAH, *AL-QABAS*, and *AL-WATAN* quoted Minister al-Dali, who concluded a visit to Kuwait yesterday, as saying that the detainees are divided into two categories. The first category concerns those who planned and participated in the mass killings and death of the leaders, and they should be sent for just trial. As for those who were deceived into battle and participated in the killing without premeditated intention — the innocents — we regard them as having been deceived. The political leadership is studying their situations and will pardon them so they can return to participate once again in the public life.

Dr al-Dali described his Gulf tour as having been fruitful and that the officials in the countries he visited were responsive to the PDRY's problems and preoccupations. He expressed his satisfaction with the attitude of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He said that together with our brothers in the GCC member-states we are striving to consolidate the security and stability of the region and should prevent those who are fishing in troubled waters. He denied that the new policy of the present regime in Aden was strict and said that the tendentious intrigues would not trouble our relations with our brothers and friends. Dr al-Dali described President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad as having betrayed the people's trust and confidence. In answer to a question regarding his whereabouts he said that he was abroad.

Defense Minister Recalls Army Reservists
GF181326 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 17 Mar 86 p 1

[Excerpt] The minister of defense has issued a decree resummoning reservists who are needed in the army for active service and to complete the formation of the army units as of the day following the expiration of the current period. The summoning period is 1 month and can be extended provided it does not exceed the period noted in Article three of the reservists service regulation law.

Oil Minister Denies OPEC Contingency Plans
LD190847 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0732 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 19 Mar (KUNA) — The Kuwaiti minister of oil and industry, Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-'Adhbi al-Sabah, has strongly denied in an interview published here today, that the six GCC member-countries have laid down a strategy in case of an OPEC collapse. At the same time, however, he has not ruled out the possibility that the current OPEC meeting will end in failure.

He stressed in his interview published by the Kuwaiti *AL-QABAS* that the GCC member-countries adhere to the continuation of OPEC. The minister stated that the Gulf country members of OPEC are the only countries among OPEC member-states that will come out from the current OPEC meeting in Geneva as non-losers. The paper said the minister was clearly referring to Kuwait's determination, together with that of other Gulf countries, to continue the policy of defending their production quotas in the face of other "uncommitted" members.

Shaykh 'Ali has said that behind Kuwait's declaration, which was announced before the opening session of the current OPEC meeting, there were some defeatist purposes. He described the declaration as "a dramatic turn" in Kuwaiti policies, which used to advocate, earlier this month, the increase of production in order to protect prices.

Shaykh 'Ali has not ruled out the fact that the current OPEC meeting might end in failure. At the same time he added: "This failure will not be the end of the world ...we can always go and meet again in order to agree and succeed...we and the rest are committed to OPEC." He described the stance of Britain as uncooperative and meanwhile hailed the recent Soviet stance of cutting the production of Soviet oil.

The minister has urged other OPEC member-countries to learn from the Kuwaiti posture of going back and adhering to the production quotas. He warned that failure to achieve this adherence will lead to the failure in the current OPEC meeting.

PDRY

Foreign Minister Returns, Comments on GCC Tour

GF190636 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Political Bureau and foreign minister, returned to Aden last night, following a visit to a number of fraternal Arab countries in the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf region. He arried written messages from Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium to the leaders of these countries.

In a statement to ANA, Brother al-Dali said: Proceeding from the principles and goals of our country's foreign policy, which is based on peaceful coexistence, mutual respect, nonintervention in internal affairs of others, strengthening fraternal relations and good neighborliness, and consolidating security and stability in the region, I visited the UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia carrying written messages from Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas to the leaders of these fraternal countries.

The messages dealt with bilateral relations and local, Arab, and international issues of mutual interest. The written messages were delivered to their excellencies the leaders of the fraternal Arab countries in a fraternal and amicable atmosphere. We exchanged views on the most important issues of interest to our countries, region, and Arab causes.

During this tour, I held meetings with his highness the heir apparent of fraternal Kuwait; his highness the heir apparent of fraternal Qatar; and the brothers, the foreign ministers in the UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, and Kuwait. We discussed the issues of bilateral cooperation and the means of promoting it, and reviewed the most important events and developments in our region. During the tour I also visited Saudi Arabia. I held talks with Saudi Foreign Minister His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal on the issues of bilateral cooperation and the mutual desire to strengthen and develop it. I can say that the results of this tour have been fruitful on the level of strengthening bilateral relations, producing a full understanding of the developments in the region and a sincere fraternal response to the mutual desire of our countries, peoples, and governments in preserving fraternal relations, good neighborliness, and bolstering the security, prosperity, and stability of the entire region.

All that remains for me is to express my great gratitude to the welcome, hospitality, and warm receptions and farewells I was accorded during my tour of these fraternal Arab countries.

He was received at the airport by Brother Muhammad 'Ali 'Imayah, deputy foreign minister; and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Receives Amir of Kuwait 19 March

GF191406 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1355 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 19 Mar (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received at the royal camp today Amir of Kuwait His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, who arrived in the Kingdom today on a private visit to meet with His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz hosted a lunch reception in honor of the amir of Kuwait and the delegation accompanying him.

Moroccan Crown Prince Meets With Officials

LD171528 Rabat MAP in English 1209 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Riyadh, March 17 (MAP) — Visiting Moroccan Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed was received Sunday by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

The audience was attended on the Moroccan side by Secretary of State to Foreign Affairs Ahmed Cherkaoui, the king's Chamberlain Ibrahim Fraj and other civil and military officials accompanying the crown prince, while on the Saudi side, the meeting was attended by Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Minister of Foreign Affairs Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Minister of Information 'Ali al-Sha'ir and other high ranking officials.

Earlier Sunday, Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed had conferred with Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

During this meeting, Prince Sidi Mohamed expressed his admiration for achievements made by Saudi Arabia in the industrial, urban and socio-economic fields.

Crown prince Sidi Mohamed had arrived in Saudi Arabia last Tuesday on a week-long official visit.

Pakistani Prime Minister Concludes Visit, Departs

GF181254 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and the delegation accompanying him left Medina this afternoon for his country, after a visit to the Kingdom during which he performed al-'umrah and visited the prophet's mosque.

UAE

Reportage on Visit by British Official Renton

Received by Dubai Heir Apparent

GF181625 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1348 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Dubayy, 18 Mar (WAM) — Shaykh Maktum ibn Rashid, deputy prime minister and heir apparent of Dubai, received in his office before noon today Mr Timothy Renton, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, who is currently on a visit to the country.

The meeting was attended by Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid, minister of finance and industry; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid, minister of defense; and Harold Walker, British ambassador to the UAE.

The two sides discussed ways of boosting existing cooperation between the UAE and the United Kingdom in various fields, the latest developments in the region, and the developments of the Iraq-Iran war and its negative effect on peace and stability in the Gulf region.

Concludes Visit 19 Mar

GF190843 Doha QNA in Arabic 0805 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Dubayy, 19 Mar (QNA) — Timothy Renton, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, left Dubayy today for the United Kingdom following a 3-day visit to the UAE at the end of a tour which also included Qatar and Bahrain.

During the tour, the British minister held talks with a number of officials in the three countries which dealt with the Iraq-Iran war and its effects on the security and stability of the region, the Middle East question, and the international oil situation, in addition to bilateral economic and trade cooperation relations.

YAR

Standing Committee Delegation Returns From Algeria

GF181733 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The delegation of the Standing Committee of the YAR General People's Congress led by Brother 'Abd al-Salam al-'Ansi, assistant secretary of the Standing Committee, returned to Sanaa today following a visit to the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria.

During the visit, the delegation held discussions with FLN officials. In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Brother Al-'Ansi said that the visit has contributed to enhancing relations between our General People's Congress and the FLN in the organizational and political fields. He added that the delegation has conveyed to the brothers in the FLN the ideological and organizational concepts of the General People's Congress.

In conclusion, he stated that during the visit he conveyed the greetings of Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to his brother Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and his FLN colleagues.

Further on Visit by PRC President Li Xiannian

Li Addresses Assembly

NC191112 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0901 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Speech delivered by PRC President Li Xiannian at a joint meeting of the Egyptian People's Assembly and Consultative Council in Cairo — live in Mandarin, fading into superimposed Arabic translation]

[Text] Mr President of the Republic, Mr Speaker of the People's Assembly, Mr Speaker of the Consultative Council, ladies and gentlemen: I am greatly pleased to have come to your country at the kind invitation of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. I am also happy to have been given the opportunity to address you from this respected podium. First and foremost, allow me to thank His Excellency President Husni Mubarak for his personal attendance at this momentous session. I also wish to thank the speaker of the People's Assembly and the speaker of the Consultative Council, along with the entire audience, for their warm welcome, and I want to convey the sincere greetings and good wishes of the Chinese people to the Egyptian people. [applause]

Egypt is an ancient and civilized state, with a very long history. The intelligent and creative Egyptian people built a very great and brilliant civilization in ancient times. Today they are engaged in untiring efforts to promote global peace and development. The Chinese people feel nothing but admiration, respect, and esteem for the Egyptians. I have visited some African countries in the past. At present, I am making a tour of Egypt and other African countries, and will carry back with me the feelings of deep friendship you have expressed for the Chinese people.

China is a Third World country and the Chinese people have special feelings for the Third World. The Chinese Government and people are unreserved in their support for the Third World. China places the consolidation of friendship and cooperation with the Third World nations at the top of its foreign policy agenda.

The Third World consists of more than 100 states, in which three quarters of the world's population resides. These states are to be found in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Oceania. They all have suffered the domination, subjugation, and exploitation of colonialism and imperialism for many years. The vast majority of these states have now gained political independence, following a very difficult struggle.

After World War II, there was an unprecedented proliferation of national liberation movements. The imperialist era was eradicated and a new era in the history of mankind began. A great number of states took their fates into their own hands and started their march on the road to national independence. This had far-reaching effects. The status quo, in which a few great powers monopolized international affairs and controlled the world, was eliminated. The entire world situation witnessed profound changes in favor of various peoples and in the interest of world peace and mankind's progress.

It must be said that the renaissance of the Third World is regarded as the greatest historic event of our times. The Third World is constantly growing stronger and now is playing an increasing role in international affairs. It currently plays a very important role, both in safeguarding world peace and in supporting joint development.

The principal task of the states of the Third World after attaining political independence lies in combating poverty, raising the standard of living of their peoples, and strengthening their hard-won political independence by developing their economies. They stand in urgent need of a peaceful international environment.

However, since the end of World War II, there has been a constant series of big and small regional wars. Most of them have taken place in the Third World. Some of these conflicts were caused by the aggression and expansion of the two superpowers; others have gone on for a long time and the intervention and involvement of the two superpowers have prevented them from coming to an end. These wars have, without exception, caused suffering and difficulties to those Third World countries concerned.

The danger of violent conflict between the two superpowers at present constitutes a threat to international peace and security and inflicts great harm on the countries of the Third World. Therefore, the Third World nations are more powerfully motivated than others to establish peace and resist war; their will to seek justice and to combat brute force is stronger. The Third World, which is assuming a grave historical responsibility to protect world peace, has become a principal force for peace in the modern world.

The countries of the Third World have exerted relentless efforts over many years to bring about a permanent world peace. Among these efforts have been the submission of the Five Principles for Peaceful Coexistence, the Bandung Conference of Afro-Asian states, the establishment of the Nonaligned Movement, and the defense of the aims and principles contained in the UN Charter.

At present, the struggle, in its various forms, of the Arab states and the Palestinian people to achieve the sublime goals of the restoration of their usurped lands and the restitution of their national rights; the struggle of the Kampuchean and Afghan peoples to resist foreign military aggression and occupation; the struggle of the peoples in the southern part of Africa against the racism of the South African authorities and for the achievement of independence in Namibia; and the struggle of the peoples of Central America against foreign intervention and for the preservation of independence and sovereignty — all these constitute a major part of the great struggle being waged by the peoples of the world to defend peace. The importance of this struggle extends far beyond the borders of one country or one area.

The nations of the world stand in need of peace. The establishment of peace depends on joint efforts by the peoples of the world. World peace can be maintained if the various forces for peace are continually developed and enhanced. The Third World constitutes the backbone in this process.

The Third World is not only a principal force in the maintenance of world peace, but also has an important role to play in strengthening the joint development of various countries. Since the countries of the Third World cover large areas and have sizeable populations and extensive resources, they possess colossal potential for development. A considerable number of Third World countries have made significant achievements in economic development. The world economy is an integral whole: each country depends on the other. The economies of the developed and the developing countries in the Third World are closely interlinked. If the Third World, which includes the great majority of the world population, does not make progress, the developed countries will face problems in securing resources, marketing goods, and investing money. It would also be impossible to deal with those problems that need a quick solution in order to speed up development and redevelopment.

We must say in fairness that the need of the developed countries for the cooperation of the developing countries is no smaller than the developing countries' need for the cooperation of the developed countries. Starting from this premise, we can say that the development of the Third World states is central to the achievement of economic prosperity in all countries of the world. The Third World states have continued to work tirelessly to enhance the joint development of the economies of the various countries of the world. The establishment of the group of 77 countries, the foundation of regional cooperation organizations of several kinds, the development of cooperation between South and South, improved dialogue between South and North, the strong demand for the rectification of the old unjust and unreasonable international economic system, and the establishment of a new system — all these are important manifestations of these efforts.

Of particular importance, and requiring reiteration here, is the fact that the Third World countries' demand for the rectification of the world economic order and their efforts to this end provide a tremendous impetus to the joint development of the world's economy, both at present and in the distant future. The development of South-South cooperation and the past erosion of the Third World's economic power are not considered important elements in the new world economic order. Rather, this order should play an important role in promoting North-South negotiations and cooperation and in providing momentum to the wheel of healthy development for the entire world economy.

The protection of peace is closely linked to the achievement of economic prosperity. The economic progress of the Third World countries would necessarily mean the development of a world force for peace. We have noted with pleasure that an increasing number of developed countries and of knowledgeable and informed individuals, realizing the connection between international politics and the world's economy, are attaching due importance to the historic role being played by the Third World in consolidating world peace and development and are working to expand their cooperation with the Third World. This is without question a positive development, and should be welcomed.

It is extremely important that the Third World countries amply demonstrate their role as a primary force in the preservation of world peace, in support for mutual development, and in the promotion of solidarity and cooperation among themselves. Their solidarity represents the source of the Third World's strength, and their cooperation constitutes the decisive factor in their might.

The Third World countries have achieved considerable progress in consoidating their soldiarity and cooperation. The establishment and active influence of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Union of South Asian Regional Cooperation, the ICO, the Arab League, the GCC, the OAU, the Contadora Group, the Lima Group, and other similar organizations, are bound to play a useful role in preserving the peace and stability of their areas and in consolidating ties and cooperation among concerned countries.

We realize that both inherited and current disputes continue to exist among some Third World countries. We hope that these countries will place the world situation above all other considerations and will resolve their disputes in accordance with the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, on the basis of a spirit of mutual respect and understanding, and through peaceful negotiations. This would necessarily defeat any chances of intervention by foreign forces, end the suffering of the parties to the disputes, and create a suitable atmosphere for the development of cooperation among themselves on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

China is a developing and socialist country. The continued strengthening of solidarity and cooperation with the Third World countries constitutes a basic factor in China's independent and peaceful foreign policy, and a mainstay of China's efforts in foreign affairs.

China and the other Third World countries are closely and fatefully linked by their historical suffering and their common current task. China and the Third World countries exchange sympathy and support in protecting world peace and in promoting their joint development. China and its revolution and construction continue to win the support and solidarity of several Third World countries. For our part, we always seek to protect the interests and rights of the Third World countries. This is our duty, from which we will never shirk. We tenaciously support the Third World countries in their just struggle against colonialism, imperialism, and hegemony, and in their efforts to preserve their national independence, strengthen their national economies, and develop their countries.

We also support the objectives and principles of the Nonaligned Movement. We adhere strictly to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence in our relations with the Third World countries, as with all of the world's countries. We do not interfere in other countries' domestic affairs. We give firm support to the Third World countries' demand for the rectification of the old world economic order. We attach extreme importance to the maintenance of economic ties and the pursuit of technical cooperation with these countries. Over 20 years ago, the late President Zhou En-Lai submitted the eight principles governing China's aid to other countries. Three years ago, State Council Premier Zhao Ziyang submitted, on behalf of the Chinese Government, the four principles that underlie the pursuit of equality and mutual benefit. These four principles focus on diversified means of cooperation, the search for common development, and the promotion of South-South cooperation.

China will adhere to these principles and will implement them firmly and without hesitation. China belongs to the Third World and will continue to do so, even if we later grow stronger. China rejects protectorates, and has never sought to become one. China's unceasing support for the Third World countries reflects certain faith and constitutes a firm stand on the part of the Chinese Government and people.

Egypt is an important country in the Third World. It is one of the founding members of the Nonaligned Movement. Egypt has made diligent efforts in support of and vital contributions to African and Arab national liberation movements, and to the establishment of peace in the Middle East and throughout the world. This fact is appreciated and admired by the people of China and of the world. [applause]

This year we will observe the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Egypt. [applause] Over the years, our two countries' relations of friendly cooperation have witnessed rapid progress. Violent storms test the strength of peoples and hardships test the heart of man. Our two people's friendship has withstood turbulent international tests but the peoples of our two countries remain sincere friends, their amity being founded on mutual confidence. The maintenance and consolidation of the relations of friendly cooperation between China and Egypt in various fields are our firm and unshaken goals. We feel absolutely certain that the relations between Egypt and China will attain even higher levels, thanks to our efforts.

Mr President, Mr People's Assembly Speaker, Mr Consultative Council Speaker, ladies and gentlemen: The great Third World has made political progress, and it is certain that the Third World countries will continue to achieve economic, scientific, technical, and cultural progress as long as they pursue a peaceful development policy reflecting a realistic appraisal of circumstances, endeavor to develop their intrinsic power, strengthen their cooperation, and win the support of the world's various countries.

The Third World peoples, who created the Great Wall of China, the pyramids, the Temple of the Sun, and other wonders of the world, can certainly offer [word indistinct], of which our modern age can be proud. The Third World peoples can make further brilliant contributions to world peace and development and to mankind's civilization and progerss. [applause] Thank you. [applause]

Mubarak Addresses Assembly

NC191247 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0924 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Speech delivered by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak at a joint meeting of the Egyptian People's Assembly and Consultative Council in Cairo in honor of visiting PRC President Li Xiannian — live]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate and the merciful. Dear and great guest of Egypt; dear brothers and sisters:

With total respect and esteem, we have listened to our distinguished guest, President Li Xiannian, [applause] who spoke to the struggling Egyptian people in the name of the great Chinese people. The historic significance of the words uttered by the dear president from this noble dais and in the house of our people lies in the fact that they truly express a profound understanding of the great mission that the Chinese and Egyptian people have undertaken from the dawn of history to develop human civilization and to advance manking.

This mission continues today and will do so in the future. It is represented by the role so capably played by the two peoples in strengthening world peace, saving nations from the dangers of war, and consolidating the principle of justice in international relations. Such relations must be founded on justice instead of force, on solidarity instead of discord, and on cooperation instead of rivalry.

In addition, they are words of profound meaning and come from the heart. Hence, it is no wonder that his words, and the values and high ideals that they represent, have touched the hearts in all of us.

Our meeting in Egypt is a one of work and cooperation in promoting the cause of mankind everywhere, but it is also a meeting of friends and of hearts.

Great guest of Egypt, dear brothers and sisters: Through the various stages of history, our two peoples have proven their unique and outstanding ability to shoulder a great responsibility, as if they have the same pact with destiny. There, in the Far East, and here, in the heart of the Arab and Islamic East, which constitutes a crossroads for Asia and Africa and a bridge of communication with the West, man instinctively realized that he was born to build, to reconstruct, and to renew. He also realized that the world is not rebuilt through material progress alone, but, first and foremost, through faith in high ideals and noble principles and through the conviction that the only road to happiness is one of self-denial, sacrifice for the sake of the whole, and death for the sake of the homeland. [applause]

Just as our marches in the past upheld the identical values of right and of justice, our goals have been united and our ambitions have been similar in modern times, for we have both been playing an important role in promoting the status of the Third World states and in strengthening their ability to express their free and independent will.

Just as you do, Mr President, we consecrate our freedom and the independence of our wills. We hold the dignity of the homeland above all other considerations. We defend it with all of our means and we sacrifice our lives and sons in its defense. We reject any kind of subservience or hegemony. [applause] We consider our national soil to be as sacred as the sacred valley in Tuwah, in which only the virtuous may set foot and which cannot be harmed by the covetous and grudgebearers. It is no coincidence that our two countries differ from other countries in that they have preserved their geographical boundries, delineated 7,000 years ago, [applause] with neither expansion nor decrease. This would never have been true were it not that our two peoples sanctify their land and refuse to place anything above it.

The Egyptian and Chinese peoples have been taught to respect justice and right, and to refrain from acts of evil and aggression. This is the apex of civilization and progress. In this context, we greatly admire China's groundbreaking experiment in self-reliance, because we believe that this is an inevitable factor in the establishment of political, economic, and cultural independence, and in state freedom from pressure and restrictions. It also represents the significance of dedication and allegiance to the homeland and of the individual's subordination to society.

We have seen how your great country has made tremendous progress in production through the application of self-reliance. We have seen how you have developed your agricultural policy by rendering it eminently flexible, to promote the public's general interest. We have also seen the positive results of your policy on economic reform, in which you have both encouraged an open-door policy on production and introduced modern technological methods that are compatible with the reality of China and its needs. Egypt is pursuing the same policy in an effort to increase production, diversify products, modernize industry, develop agriculture, promote the standard of services, and find new job opportunities for future generations of Egyptians.

Dear friend President Li Xiannian: What you have just said in your speech to the representatives of the Eygptian people, and that which we deeply feel about the closeness of our objectives and similarity of our steps, can only strengthen our detemrination to bolster and promote our two countries' cooperation in various areas and to benefit from our common experiences in serving the interest of both our peoples.

As far as economic and technical cooperation is concerned, we see great opportunities to increase our two countries' trade exchange. There are also vast prospects for greater cooperation in agriculture, land reclamation, pisciculture, cloth production, and handicrafts, particularly as we are implementing an ambitious program to enable the Egyptian village to assume its natural character as a production unit and a cell for creative work in which every man and woman can participate.

We also attach great importance to cultural cooperation. The civilizations of our two countries were built upon thought and knowledge. Thus, it would only be logical to give top priority to cooperation in this field. We have ancient traditions that may guide us toward the achievement of that objective.

China's interest in Egypt's culture and civilization began with the Han dynasty in the 1st century A.D. Similarly, Egyptian men of thought and science have always directed a large part of their attention to that great civilization whose sun rises in the Far East. That link between our two civilizations has remained a substantial one throughout history. Your people have translated Al-Busiri's poem "The Outer Garment" [Al-Burdah] and Imam Muhammad 'Abdu's book "The Message of Monotheism" [Risalat al-Tawhid] into Chinese. Chinese students join our ancient Al-Azhar University, the minaret of Arab and Islamic studies, every year. It is thus that the channels of cultural communication and interactive thought between our two peoples are consolidated.

Our Muslim brothers in your country are allowed to maintain their spiritual heritage and to contribute to the body of Islamic studies through your rational policy, which upholds the freedom of religion and consolidates the concept of tolerance and cohesion among the sons of the glorious Chinese people. It is a policy that is appreciated and admired by all your friends.

Egypt's honored guest: I need not say that my visits to your glorious country have left me with the very best impressions. They are cherished memories that time cannot erase. These visits gave me the personal opportunity to deepen my conviction that we are creating a friendship with a nation that combines principles with action, and that provides the highest example of honorable struggle for the elevation of man.

I take this opportunity to express our great appreciation to you, to your companions in the Chinese leadership, and to all of the glorious Chinese people for the stands you have taken with us, both declared and facit, in good and bad times alike. Thank you, dear friends. You have been and remain our best companions along our difficult course. You have always been beside us in all sincerity whenever necessary, or whenever danger threatened. In a few words, and with all gratitude, I must say that you are a magnificent model of a great and proud people and a great example of the victorious march of a remarkable and dignified heritage. May God guide us all to success. May God's mercy and peace be upon you.

Mubarak, Li Resume Talks

NC181430 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] President Husni Mubarak resumed his talks with PRC President Li Xiannian today. The members of the Egyptian and Chinese delegations also met for 1½ hours, after which they joined the session of talks with the two presidents.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif stated that during the meeting President Mubarak stressed the solidity of Egyptian-Chinese relations, and expressed the Egyptian people and government's appreciation of the Chinese people. He also referred to the deep-rooted links between the two countries, and commended the friendly atmosphere of the talks.

Al-Sharif said that the discussions dealt with the Middle East issue, the Palestinian question, the Iraq-Iran war, as well as Egyptian and Chinese policy on other international issues.

There was an identity of views on the subjects discussed. President Mubarak declared his intention of continuing consultations with the Chinese leaders and achieving further coordination between the two countries, in light of their common concerns.

Al-Sharif stated that the Chinese leader described his talks with President Mubarak as very successful. The Chinese president also praised Egypt's activities on the international scene. He renewed his invitation to President Mubarak to visit China, when he considers the time is right for further consultations, and expressed appreciation of President Mubarak's policies on both domestic and foreign matters.

Al-Sharif said that the Egyptian and Chinese delegations discussed political and economic relations between the two countries. They also exchanged views on various Middle East and international issues. Attitudes toward these issues were identical.

The two delegations discussed the Palestinian question. They took as their starting point the two countries' eagerness to make efforts to establish the legitimate rights of the Palestinians and bring about a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. They agreed that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement of February 1985, should be seen as a basis for efforts aimed at establishing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and for making further contacts with all parties concerned.

The two delegations also examined the promotion of economic relations, widening the scope of bilateral trade, and increasing the volume of Egyptian exports so as to achieve a balance in trade between the two countries. In addition, they discussed Chinese willingness to import more Egyptian products.

Presidents Mubarak and Li Xiannian will attend the joint session of the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council, which will be held at 1030 tomorrow in honor of the Chinese president. The two presidents will deliver speeches at the session.

'Abd al-Majid Meets With UN's Goulding

NC181541 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 18 Mar (MENA) — This afternoon, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with Marrack Goulding, assistant UN secretary general for political affairs, who arrived in Cairo at noon today. They discussed current developments in the Middle East issue.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid pointed to Egypt's efforts to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the region. He commended the efforts made by the United Nations to reach a peaceful settlement of the Middle East issue. Dr 'Abd al-Majid stressed the need to hold an international peace conference and noted the efforts made by the UN secretary general on this.

Lutfi Denies Intention To Float Pound

NC181231 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 18 Mar (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi has said that there are no plans to float the Egyptian pound and stressed that this is not currently under consideration. He made these remarks in a statement following the conclusion of today's round of Egyptian-Chinese talks.

In response to journalists' questions, Dr Lutfi also denied a report published by a local newspaper today. The paper claimed that today's Cabinet meeting would include a discussion of ways to close the gap between the price of dollars set by the Central Bank and the rate quoted on the free market. He noted that the Cabinet will be examining a number of programs designed to have quick results.

These programs were prepared after President Mubarak's speech to the People's Assembly and Consultative Council in which he called on the government to adopt these types of measures. They would be particularly applicable to departments and offices that deal directly with the public, including the Land Registration Department, road licensing offices, the health department, and civil statute and passport offices. The Cabinet will also discuss its ordinary agenda.

Investments, Tourism Encouraged

NC190456 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] At its meeting this evening, under Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi, the Cabinet discussed steps to implement the directives that President Muhammad Husni Mubarak issued when he chaired the recent Cabinet meeting and when he addressed the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif stated this, adding that while talking about rationalization of government expeditures, the Cabinet reviewed the government decisions to reduce travel allowances, limit government advertisements, cut back on propaganda and unnecessary expenses, limit the number of members in Egyptian delegations traveling abroad, reduce by 25 percent the budgets of embassies, consultates, and technical offices, and cut back on the number of invitations to delegations from other countries. He added that the Cabinet stressed the importance of continuing to implement these measures.

The information minister said: As for the encouragement of the private and investment sectors, the Cabinet decided to open an office for investment in tourist projects. This office will issue permits for these projects in only 1 week. The Cabinet also resolved to open an office for investment in land reclamation and another for investment in food security projects. He added that Dr 'Ali Lutfi noted that the aims of these offices are to save Egyptian or foreign investors the trouble of having to consult other departments and to ensure that permission to begin an investment project is granted within a short period of time. The information minister stated that the Cabinet chose to refer the matter of facilitating the trade register procedures and the registration of companies to the Higher Committee for Policies. The Cabinet decided to simplify the customs tariff procedures to eliminate the problems facing investors.

The information minister went on to say that the Cabinet discussed a special study on improving the performance of the public sector, and concluded that the minister of administrative development and the other concerned ministers should establish rules for administrative and technical development of all aspects of the public sector and in 1 month should present to the Cabinet a single plan for work within this sector. The Cabinet approved the decisions of the Higher Council for Tourism to encourage and promote local tourism and to raise the standard of the areas visited and the services provided. The Cabinet also resolved to simplify the procedures at airports and ports.

The Cabinet discussed increasing public services and facilitating measures by the government service units. It reviewed the status of those who had been employed by hotels and tourist establishments where work has stopped, as a result of the recent events. The Cabinet decided to speed up the implementation of a law on unemployment benefits for these workers to cover the entire reconstruction period, and decided to permit the workers to postpone their insurance payments. The minister of manpower reviewed the steps taken to employ a number of these workers at other hotels.

Supreme Soviet Delegation Arrives in Cairo

NC181938 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 18 Mar (MENA) — A Soviet delegation led by Pavel Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and chairman of the Georgian Republic Supreme Soviet, arrived in Cairo this evening on an 8-day visit, in response to an invitation from People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub.

The 8-member delegation will meet with Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi; Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture; and Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, speaker of the Consultative Council.

Upon arriving, Pavel Gilashvili said that the Soviet delegation will meet with members of the People's Assembly to promote cooperation and to strengthen relations between the two countries. He noted that these meetings will be an opportunity to exchange views on a number of subjects that concern Egypt and the USSR. He lauded their relations and stated that the purpose of the visit is to promote and bolster them.

Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, who received the delegation at the airport, said that the talks that Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali, minister of economy and foreign trade, will hold during his visit to Moscow next week will follow up on those of the Soviet delegation. Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub observed that this delegation is returning the visit that a group from the People's Assembly, led by Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Ilah, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, had paid to Moscow last summer.

Presidium Message to Mubarak

NC182027 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Excerpt] A Soviet delegation, led by Pavel Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and chairman of the Georgian Republic Supreme Soviet, arrived in Cairo this evening on an 8-day visit, in response to an invitation from People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub. The Soviet delegation is carrying a message from the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet to President Husni Mubarak.

Pakistani Justice Minister Ends Visit, Departs

NC182230 Cairo MENA in English 2205 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 18 Mar (MENA) — Pakistan Minister of Justice Iqbal Ahmad Khan left here tonight for home after a four-day visit during which he met President Husni Mubarak. The Pakistani minister had met also with Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, and Grand Shaykh of Al-Azhar Jad al-Haqq 'Ali Jad al-Haqq. In a pre-departure statement, Iqbal Ahmad Khan said he carries a message from President Husni Mubarak to President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan, and another message from Dr 'Ali Lutfi to the Pakistani prime minister.

Israeli Delegation to Tabah Talks Arrives

NC182126 Cairo MENA in English 2114 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 18 Mar (MENA) — The Israeli delegation to Tabah talks arrived here tonight under General Avraham Tamir, director of the office of the Israeli prime minister, to attend the fifth round of talks due to start tomorrow.

First Session Ends

NC191347 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1240 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — The Egyptian-Israeli talks on Tabah resumed today in Cairo at the level of experts and in the presence of the United States. Ambassador Nabil al-'Arabi, director of the legal department at the foreign ministry, headed the Egyptian side, while Avraham Tamir, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, led the Israeli delegation.

After the first session, which lasted for 90 minutes, Ambassador al-'Arabi said that there had been further discussion of some of the points related to the solution of the Tabah issue by international arbitration.

The talks are scheduled to resume this evening, when examination of the same subject will continue. It should be noted that this is the fifth round of Egyptian-Israeli talks since Israel accepted the principle of international arbitration.

Cabinet Discusses Drop in Oil Prices, Dollar

JN182055 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2031 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Mar (INA) — President Saddam Husayn chaired a Cabinet meeting in which Iraqi economic policy was reviewed in light of the drop in oil prices and the value of the dollar and their effect on the national economy while Iraq is fighting its just battle to defeat the Iranian aggression.

The meeting discussed the effect of the above factors on the relation between the Iraqi economy and the world economy and its effects on both economies, employing comprehensive, profound ideas and responsible national measures. The Cabinet adopted measures and resolutions facing this situation.

The meeting was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, RCC member and vice president; RCC members; Ba'th Party Regional Command members; the director of the president's office; the ministers; and a number of state officials.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Planes Raid Military Concentrations

JN191031 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1019 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Mar (INA) — Forty-six Iraqi fighter planes swooped down simultaneously on Iranian military concentrations between the cities of Hamidiyeh and Ahvaz this morning, destroying them with tons of bombs and burying the burned bodies of the Iranian aggressors under the debris.

In a statement a short while ago, an Iraqi military spokesman said the Iraqi planes took off at 0750 [0450 GMT] today to destroy concentrations which the Iranian rulers had prepared for aggression against Iraq. He indicated that the Iraqi air strike led to the destruction of 601 tents and trailers comprising enemy military commands and personnel, as well as 46 tanks and armored vehicles.

The Iraqi military spokesman stressed that all Iraqi pilots returned safely to base after making sure that they spared none of the Iranian military concentrations.

Planes Raid Factory Near Ahvaz

JN191530 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1518 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Excerpts] A military spokesman has stated the following: At 1615 [1315 GMT] today, planes from our gigantic Air Force together launched a devastating raid on factory-19 for technical war industries near Ahvaz, destroying it completely and comprehensively. The planes returned safely to their bases.

[Dated] 19 March 1986

Jets Attack Khark Island

JN191112 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Mar (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes launched a successful attack on Khark Island installations this morning. An Iraqi military spokesman stated a short while ago that the attack took place at 0838 [0538 GMT] today and that the Iraqi planes returned safely to base after setting their targets ablaze.

Weapons Seized in North Listed

JN191206 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1132 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Subsequent to our Communique No 2,150 issued on 14 March 1986, in which we announced that our valiant forces had overrun the remnants of barbarism and aggression in the operational theater of the heroic I Army Corps and purged the land of their filth, we declare to our great Iraqi people that, besides killing or wounding thousands of enemy personnel and capturing scores of them, the following weapons, equipment, and hardware which the enemy left on the battlefield were seized:

1) one T-55 tank; 2) three bulldozers; 3) two excavators; 4) twenty vehicles of various types; 5) two jeeps each carrying one 106-mm gun; 6) one jeep carrying one 107-mm tubular launcher; 7) two motorcycles; 8) twenty-seven 120-mm mortars; 9) nineteen 81-mm mortars; 10) ten 60-mm mortars; 11) two tubular launchers with their pads; 12) four (FBG-9) guns; 13) three 106 mm guns; 14) two (Malotka) guns; 15) five Strella rocket launchers; 16) eleven 100-mm mortars; 17) eight PKT machineguns; 18) two RPK machineguns; 19) three single-barrelled Dimitrov machineguns; 20) seven DSHK machineguns; 21) forty-three Kalashnikov refiles; 22) forty-nine RPT-7 launchers; 23) fifty (GT) rifles; 24) one 57-mm antiaircraft gun; 25) two double-barreleld Dimitrov machineguns; 26) one Siminov rifle; 27) ten field telephones; 28) forty-eight radios; 29) five walkie-talkie sets; 30) one 10 line telephone exchange, various other equipment, and munitions.

Glory is yours, O men of the heroic I Army Corps. Proceed toward eliminating their remnants. God is our guide and helper. He is the best guide and best helper.

[Dated] 19 March 1986

Communique No 2,154

JN181759 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,154 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 18 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant forces are continuing their combat operations with a firm conviction in the inevitability of victory and with the high determination of men who vie with each other in carrying out their duties and scheduled plans with the aim of destroying the enemy and purging the land. The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. In implementation of the mission to completely annihilate the enemy remnants in the Al-Faw peninsula, our forces in the brave Al-Rashid and northern columns continued to direct their firepower at the enemy throughout last night and today, supported by fierce, continuous bombing from our heroic Air Force and the daring helicopters, as well as by shelling from our capable artillery and brave Navy. The enemy suffered very grave losses in men, weapons, equipment, and hardware.

2. In order to inform the Iranian rulers that their aggression on our people will end in their defeat, in the wiping out of their remnants, and in destroying them; in order to affirm to these tyrants that Iraq's long, strong arm is capable of reaching any Iranian vital target which is used for aggression; and in order to make this war and this very battle an unforgettable lesson for the racist and grudge-bearing shu'ubists [anti-Arab], teaching them that they are too weak to match Iraqi power, that they will not be able to stop its progress or the achievements of its revolution, and that they have entangled themselves in a disastrous web, squadrons from our powerful Air Force launched a fierce, surprise attack against the Esfahan refineries deep inside Iran at 1110 [0810 GMT] today under the command of the hero of Al-Qadisiyah Major Mahmud Jasim Muhammad, dropping tons of explosives.

Our planes scored accurate hits and left the refineries heaps of wreckage, sending forth flames and columns of smoke covering the area. After carrying out their duty, the eagles of the air returned to the homeland with their planes, safe and triumphant, bringing good news of victory. God bless our Air Force — commanders, pilots, officers, and other ranks. Let the ruling charlatan Iranian clique know that it will not escape its inevitable painful end. They will taste defeat and humiliation at the hands of our powerful men.

3. In addition to missions destroying the enemy's vital means of aggression and stripping the enemy of its resources deep inside its territory, our Air Force continued to deal devastating daily blows to the enemy forces, inflicting massive losses in men and equipment and spreading terror and death among enemy ranks. After flying 152 combat missions today, our planes returned safely to base, God be praised.

4. Our Army helicopter gunships have done their daily job of dealing painful blows to the enemy, inflicting further losses in men and equipment. After flying 65 combat missions, our helicopters returned safely to base, protected by God.

5. Our brave Navy, the honest and alert guardian of the Arab Gulf waters, is playing a heroic role in protecting our coasts, cutting off supplies to the evil aggressors, and lending splendid support to our land forces. History will record its great role in the battle of dignity and honor. At 1015 [0715 GMT] today, our brave Navy men sighted a medium-sized maritime target southeast of the Nowruz oil fields. They inflicted upon the target a destructive hit, destroying and sinking it. Glory to you, O lions of the sea. May God grant you success.

6. Two enemy planes penetrated our international border at 0913 [0613 GMT] today with the aim of attacking residential areas in the Al-Najaf District of the Maysan Governorate. One citizen was martyred and another was injured.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 March 1986

Syrian Industry Minister Arrives in Amman

JN181456 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1428 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Amman, 18 Mar (PETRA) — Syrian Industry Minister Engineer 'Ali al-Tarabulsi arrived in Amman this afternoon on a visit to Jordan lasting several days, during which he will hold talks with Minister of Industry and Trade Dr Raja'i al-Mu'ashshir to promote bilateral cooperation in industry.

On arriving at the Al-Ramtha border post, Eng al-Tarabulsi stated that he will discuss with his Jordanian counterpart joint projects and ways to promote them, pointing out that economic integration is the cornerstone of joint Arab action. He affirmed that these projects are successful and expressed hopes to achieve further cooperation in this field. He added that he will hold talks regarding the forthcoming conference of Arab industry ministers, which will be held at the end of this year.

Received by Prime Minister

JN191307 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received in his office today Syrian Industry Minister Engineer 'Ali al-Tarabulsi, who is currently visiting Jordan to participate in the Arab Organization for Industrial Development Conference currently being held in Amman.

Attending the meeting were Dr Raja'i al-Mu'ashshir, minister of supply, industry, and trade; and Hatim 'Abd al-Rashid, director general of the Arab organization for industrial development.

Army Commander in Chief Leaves for Sudan

JN181245 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, left Amman this morning leading a military delegation on an official visit to Sudan which will last several days at the invitation of General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, Transitional Military Council chairman and commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces.

He was seen off at Amman military airport by Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, the Armed Forces general inspector, a number of the chief of staff's aides, and the Sudanese ambassador in Amman.

AL-NAHAR on Amman Summit To Heal Rift With PLO

TA171055 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 14 Mar 86 pp 1, 23

[Text] *AL-NAHAR* has learned from reliable sources that a 5-member summit comprising King Husayn, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, and King Hassan II of Morocco will shortly be held in the Jordanian capital.

These sources said that the aim of this 5-member summit will be to bridge the dfiferences between Jordan and the PLO and promote coordination to confront the developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

The sources added that intensive contacts are currently under way behind the scenes in preparation for the convening of the 5-member summit.

Meanwhile it has been learned that King Husayn will shortly pay an official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt during which he will meet with President Husni Mubarak. Sources said that the scheduled talks between King Husayn and President Mubarak will dwell on the possibility of convening the 5-member summit in the wake of King Husayn's recent address to participants at the Arab Parliamentary Union's conference in which he affirmed Jordan's commitment to the 11 February agreement.

French Diplomats Warned of More Kidnap Attempts

NC181822 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The French Embassy in Lebanon has warned its diplomats to be vigilant in West Beirut, particularly in the areas controlled by the Hizballah Party, because the embassy has information that Iran has instructed party gunmen to kidnap more Frenchmen.

Shaykh Ibrahim al-Amin, a senior Hizballah official, has said that his party has no connection with the French hostages, indicating that the Islamic Jihad is responsible. He added that he did not meet with the French Government envoys, including Dr Razzah Ra'd. Al-Amin said: They know quite well that Hizballah does not want to communicate with them. The Hizballah official then described the [French] policy in the region as aggressive, whether dealing with Israel and Lebanon, the Iraq-Iran war, or the oppressed peoples.

Security reports received by competent circles say that the Frenchmen were kidnapped in the Al-Basta al-Tahta area during the night by gunmen whose affiliation with Hizballah cannot be ruled out. The gunmen furtively moved the Frenchmen, without the knowledge of the Amal Movement.

The Committee of Solidarity With Arab Prisoners in the Middle East has claimed responsibility for the bomb that wounded 10 people on an express train in a Paris suburb. The committee warned that this will be the first of a series of such actions, if 'Abd al-Qadir al-Sa'di, Anis Naqqash, and Karbadjian are not released. This organization had claimed responsibility for last February's bombings in a number of public places in Paris.

Algiers Radio Interviews Walid Junblatt

LD172010 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Interview with Walid Junblatt, leader of Lebanon's Progressive Socialist Party, by unidentified interviewer; Junblatt in French — in Algiers, live or recorded; first paragraph is studio introduction]

[Excerpt] The Damascus agreement, an agreement offering a solution, is now under serious threat. Mr Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, who has been in Algiers since yesterday, reviews the Lebanese situation in this interview.

[Junblatt] I think that the agreement as a general formula aimed at obtaining a truce, is perhaps valid. But the real facts are different, given the fact that Al-Jumayyil with the Lebanese Army, backed by the United States and the Israelis have decided to continue the war. At the same time one asks the question whether one can reach a separate agreement in Lebanon without taking into account the Middle East situation, the Palestinians, the Israeli presence in southern Lebanon, because the agreement is very vague about the presence of Israel in southern Lebanon — in fact, it does not mention it at all.

[Interviewer] [Words indistinct] The political side of this agreement?

[Junblatt] What is being threatened is the political side. This means that the war will continue and more violence is being prepared on each side. Hence, I do not see a possible solution in Lebanon, given the fact that the United States and Israel will continue to use a Lebanese group, the Phalangists, against national interests, against Palestinian interests, against Arab interests.

[Interviewer] Then what options do you foresee?

[Junblatt] Above all, patriots must close ranks and strengthen their unity and continue the struggle, be it against the Phalangists in the center or the Israelis in the south and their protege, Lahd.

[Interviewer] Is there anything to be done for a return to security in Beirut? Are there any steps being taken to, say, restore a semblance of security?

[Junblatt] Yes, steps are being taken to restore a semblance of security, but there are certain groups that have refused to work in coordination with us or to be in the same, say, political clan. I am talking about the Hizballahs. So we will have to see how to go about it in order to have a dialogue with those people, because they represent a fairly imposing political and military force.

[Interviewer] (?This happens at the level of the Muslim camp).

[Junblatt] This is at the level of the patriotic Muslim camp in general, because in West Beirut it is also the case of 100,000 Christians who live here with us. So one cannot say it is merely a Muslim camp — it is a national camp. On the other side things are settled Fascist-style. There is order on the other side but it is a fascist order, that of Samir Ja'ja' and Amin al-Jumayyil.

[Interviewer] You are very, very pessimistic but is there truly no glimmer of hope?

[Junblatt] I see things in a realistic way. Unfortunately the Arab world, the middle east is going through a crisis and all the ways out are closed. They are deadlocked on the Palestinian plane, deadlocked in the Gulf War. Certainly, one cannot separate one problem from another.

[Interviewer] Perhaps one will be able to speak of southern Lebanon, where the prospects are better because the resistance is increasingly stronger.

[Junblatt] This is perhaps the only hope, because despite all Israeli reprisals against the civilian population, this population became used to them the resistance continues. Conditions are certainly difficult but it continues, and from there perhaps stems a glimmer of hope which, I hope, one day will unite all Lebanese people.

[Interviewer] Let us now go to the business of the French hostages, which runs the risk of causing another French intervention. We know that the French fleet is on the move in the Mediterranean. What is your opinion on this business, about which it is being said that it is the French Government's Middle East policy that has been taken hostage?

[Junblatt](?If) the French Government's policy is taken hostage, the French people must not, however, be taken hostage; such a thing would fuel the reactionary, to say the least, elements within certain so-called left-wing circles in France, making one forget the real problem in Lebanon. The Palestinian problem. One accuses the Arab, the Muslim; this phenomenon is very bad.

[Interviewer]Then what is your assessment as to a possible french reaction to settle this hostage affair?

[Junblatt] I do not think that France would, at least I do not advise France to go in again for military adventurism, as it did in the context of the multinational force. This has cost France a fairly high price. So she should merely go in for political action, and I believe it to be high time for the French to denounce energetically their totally partial policy toward Palestinians and toward the Arab cause.

Syria's Talas Visits N. Lebanon, Meets Franjiyah

NC181953 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Former President Sulayman Franjiyah today received Syrian Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas. The general said that he and General 'Ali Aslan and Major General Sa'id Bayraqdar had inspected the Syrian forces in north Lebanon. Talas expressed optimism about the situation in Lebanon, stressing Syria's support for the tripartite agreement. Replying to a question on whether any politican changes are expected soon, he said: They will be in the public interest.

Election Held for Parliamentary Committee Leaders

NC181245 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 18 Mar 86]

[Text]— Deputy Speaker Munir Abu Fadil has announced that the parliamentary committees, their chairmen, and secretaries were reelected at today's session of the Chamber of Deputies. The chairmen and secretaries of the committees are as follows:

Finance and Budget Committee: Rene Mu'awwad, chairman; Anwar al-Sabbah, secretary.
Foreign Affairs Committee: Amin al-Hafiz, chairman; Edmond Rizq, secretary.
Public Works Committee: Shafiq Badr, chairman; Talal al-Mir'ibi, secretary.
Finance and Social Affairs Committee: Zaki Mazbudi, chairman; Farid Jubran, secretary.
National Education Committee: Louis Abu Sharaf, chairman; Jamil Kibbih, secretary.
Agriculture Committee: 'Ali al'Abdallah, chairman; Salim al-Dawud, secretary.
Economy Committee: Jubran Tawq, chairman; Souren Khanamirian, secretary.
Administration and Justice Committee: Auguste Bakhus, chairman; Rafiq Shahin, secretary.
National Defense and Security Committee: Fu'ad Lahhud, chairman; Ra'if Samara, secretary.
Information, Posts, and Telecommunications Committee: Mahmud 'Ammar, chairman; Munif al-Khatib, secretary.
Public Health Committee: 'Abdallah al-Rasi, chairman; Hashim al-Husayni, secretary.
Planning, Reconstruction, Industry, and Oil Committee: Khatchig Babikian, chairman; Zaki Mazbudi, secretary.
Internal Regulations Committee: Bashir al-A'war, chairman; 'Abduh 'Uwaydat, secretary.

Norwegian UNIFIL Contingent To Extend Tour

NC182143 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2115 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The Norwegian Foreign Ministry has announced that Norway will extend the tour of its UNIFIL contingent in south Lebanon for 6 months after the present mandate expires, 1 month from now.

Gunmen Steal Car, Kidnap Passengers in W. Beirut

NC181513 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1445 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] A short while ago, three gunmen in a red Mercedes intercepted a Peugeot 505 with diplomatic license plate number 192 in Abu Talib Street in West Beirut. The gunmen stole the Peugeot and kidnapped the passengers, taking them to an unknown destination.

Amal, Hizballah Gunmen Clash in Ra's al-Nab'

NC181613 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1545 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] A short while ago, fighting, involving machineguns and RPG-7's, broke out between Amal and Hizballah gunmen near the Al-'Adm building in Ra's al-Nab'. Many gunmen are deployed in the area, where tension now prevails.

Soviet Embassy Reportedly Planning To Move

NC182034 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2015 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] A press source has indicated that talks are being held behind the scenes to arrange for the Soviet Embassy to move from Corniche al-Mazra'ah to the Khaldah area.

Second Booby-Trapped Vehicle Reported in Damascus

NC191316 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1225 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] According to additional information we have received on the booby-trapped truck that exploded in Damascus last Thursday [13 March], the blast left 60 dead and 110 others wounded. They were passing by the scene of the incident in two large trucks. We have learned that a number of policemen were riding on one of the buses [as heard]. The Syrian intelligence service cordoned off the area immediately. Shortly after the blast, the authorities discovered a booby-trapped Honda loaded with 200 kg of explosives. The vehicle had been left near the Syrian radio and television building, not far from the entrance to Damascus.

The Syrians made a wave of arrests shortly thereafter. Among those detained were two Lebanese and four Palestinians who the Syrians say belong to the 'Arafat group.

People's Assembly Meets, Condemns Iraqi 'Crime'

JN181941 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The People's Assembly has condemned the Iraqi fascist regime's criminal practices and held this regime responsible for the criminal act it carried out a few days ago by detonating a booby-trapped car at Damascus' northern entrance. The Assembly held a session this evening under Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi in the presence of a number of ministers.

The Assembly speaker began the session with a speech, saying: The agent Iraqi regime continued to work, covertly and overtly, against Syria and its struggling people with the aim of weakening its capability at a time when Syria, on behalf of the Arab nation, confronts the enemy and offers its sons' blood in confronting all the imperialist and Zionist challenges and conspiracies against the Arab nation. The criminal Iraqi regime was not satisfied with undermining relations between Syria and Iraq, but resorted to sabotage against the Syrian people and social and economic establishments.

It embraced gangs of crime and terrorism — the gangs of the Muslim Brotherhood — and trained them in special camps. It dispatched thousands of guns, scores of booby-trapped cars, and explosives. It killed hundreds of Syrian workers, peasants, men of religion, scientists, doctors, and others from all sectors of the people. This regime's agents set ablaze a number of stores and establishments. The massacre in the Al-Azbakiyah District in Damascus and other massacres which resulted in the deaths of hundreds of innocent citizens are clear examples of this regime's plotting against Syria, which is the primary and essential trench of confrontation with the enemy.

Al-Zu'bi added that plotting against Syria serves only the Zionist enemy and has only one explanation, namely, involvement in a conspiratorial scheme led by the United States, world Zionism, and their ally, Israel. The agent Saddam regime's criminal acts against Syria made us stress that had this regime carried out only some of these acts against any other country, a genuine, large-scale war would have erupted. However, we in Syria, stemming from Arab morality and rising above this behavior which is a violation of Arab and human norms and ethics, cannot carry out similar acts because Iraq's people are our people and its sons are our sons and brothers. These acts are rejected by our people in Iraq and they will sooner or later punish the Iraqi regime's executioners headed by agent Saddam.

Al-Zu'bi said that the unjust, crazy war Saddam launched against the Iranian revolution was only an implementation of the reactionary, imperialist, Zionist plan aimed at undermining Arab might and keeping our people in Iraq away from the main Arab cause, the Paelstinian cause, and liberating Palestine from Zionism and its U.S. imperialist supporter.

The war was also aimed at preventing the Iraqi people from participating in Arab fateful causes and resisting challenges and schemes which are hostile to the Arab nation.

Afterward, a number of Assembly members talked about the new murder perpetrated by the Saddam agent regime — a crime which recalls a tragic series of national and pan-Arab crimes which this fascist regime carried out against the Iraqi and Syrian peoples and the entire Arab nation represented by murder, sabotage, destruction, suppression of freedom, and involvement in hostile schemes aimed at weakening Arabs and their fateful causes in the service of Israel, imperialism, and world Zionism.

These crimes are crowned by this regime's unjust war against the Iranian people and their revolution which supported Arabs and their causes from the first moment of its eruption and which asserted its confrontation of imperialism and Zionism and their agent, Israel, which usurped Arab territory, displaced the Palestinian Arab people, seeks further expansion and usurpation of Arab territory, and strives to achieve its dream of establishing Greater Israel from the Nile to Euphrates.

In their speeches, the members pledged to the Arab nation, our people in Syria, and the leader of our march, President Hafiz al-Asad, to be sincere and faithful soldiers in defending the homeland and the nation and to confront all agents and plotters and their imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary supporters.

After the members delivered their speeches, the Assembly agreed to address a memo to the Arab Parliamentary Union and Arab and international parliamentary establishmments exposing Saddam's crimes against our Arab people and nation, condemning these crimes, and calling for adopting the appropriate parliamentary action to achieve an effective Arab solidarity and to rally all efforts against the Arab nation's enemies.

The People's Assembly then discussed the topics included on its agenda.

Saddam's Criminality Linked With Israeli Threats

JN181223 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, it is no coincidence that the fascist Iraqi regime's crime against our people coincides with a series of Israeli threats to Syria. In Syria's steadfastness and efforts to achieve a strategic balance with Israel, the enemy leaders find a danger to their expansionist plans to contain the region in cooperation with the United States. It is no coincidence that the Saddam Husayn regime's crime, which was aimed at terrifying the sons of our people, killing them, and undermining their steadfastness, coincides with President Hafiz al-Asad's affirmation that our decision is that Israel will not fulfill its dreams or achieve its plans.

There is a direct relationship between Israel's attempt to change the equation of steadfastness created by Syria in the arena of struggle and represented by forming a militant front extending from southern Lebanon and the Golan Heights to the occupied homeland in order to besiege the Camp David regime in Egypt, which began destroying the iron cordon around it. We say there is a direct relationship between Israel's attempt to break the equation created by Syria and the acts of sabotage planned and perpetrated by the fascist Iraqi regime, which was not satisfied with preventing Iraq's resources from contributing to the battle of confrontation with the Israeli enemy but, through its bloody war, insists on destroying the potential of the Iraqi and Iranian people in the interest of the Zionist-U.S. plans to weaken and fragment Arab strength and to punish the Iranian revolution that toppled the Shah's regime, which had played the role of U.S. gendarme in the Gulf.

Nothing will serve the Israeli enemy better than preparing the appropriate atmosphere for it to deal separately with the Arab states. Moreover, nothing will serve the enemy more than sublimating the conflict with it to secondary disputes that will undermine any serious approach to a unified Arab stand capable of confronting Israel's plans and curbing its expansionist policy. Nothing will serve the Camp David course more than weakening Syria which, through its firm stand, constitutes a decisive factor to besiege Camp David and prevent it from spreading in the Arab arena.

The conspiracy against Syria has not stopped. In fact, threats, acts of sabotage, and military concentrations in the Mediterranean are all links in one chain aimed at finding a way out of the impasse the U.S. settlement has reached thanks to the heroic struggle of the resistance in southern Lebanon, the Palestinian resistance in the occupied homeland, and the national awakening in Egypt against the Camp David regime. The most difficult obstacle to Camp David has always been and is still represented by Sryia, which formulates its policy in accordance with its commitment to the basic principles of the pan-Arab struggle against the enemy.

The enemy's ambitions in the Arab homeland have no limits and the dangers of these ambitions will spare no one. Anyone who facilitates the enemy's expansionist policy and anyone who attempts to undermine Sryia's steadfastness will in this way or some other be serving Israel and U.S. attempts to contain the region. Through its new crime against our people, the fascist regime in Iraq has given additional proof of its attempt to expand the criminal war it is waging in coordination with the Camp David sides to serve their hostile schemes against the Arab destiny and future.

'Urgent Task' of Improving Economy Faces Nation

PM181631 Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 5 Mar 86 p1, 11

[Muhammad Khayr al-Wadi article: "The Urgent Task"]

[Excerpts] In his historic speech to the People's Assembly, leader Al-Asad identified two kinds of reasons for some of the economic difficulties from which we are suffering. These are: the objective reasons, such as an imbalance between revenues and expenditures and the effects of the world economic crisis; and the inherent reasons, which concern us and foremost among which is a failure to stick to comprehensive planning, slackness in following up work, a diminishing sense of responsibility, and failure to utilize all the available resources in a correct manner.

This important reference to the causes of some of our economic difficulties should prompt deeper thinking into this matter and the initiation of steps for immediate remedy. There is in fact a great deal that needs thinking about in this field. Despite the fact that our country pursues comprehensive planning in the national economy and lays down 5-year plans and despite the efforts to implement these plans, reality shows that such efforts are below what is expected and that accountability for failure to implement the plan is not up to the required level.

An economic plan is an integrated action program defining the activities of our economic machinery and our social development within a specific period of time. Under no circumstances should the machine remain idle or should any of its cogs be left to rust or to malfunction, thus hampering our progress. The existence of such delaying factors should not be allowed to continue at a time when we have a dire need to speed up our economic and social growth. The plan is not an end in itself, nor is it just inanimiate figures. Rather it is a means to survey and increase resources as well as to define expenditures and balance them with revenues. It is a framework for speeding up general development in our country and providing a suitable living standard for our toiling masses. For this reason the real criterion for the implementation of the plan does not lie only in achieving the projected figures but also in achieving the long-term economic and social targets set in the plan.

It is fair to say that our 5-year economic plans which have been laid down and those which are now being studied constitute a qualitative step in the development of our economic awareness because they reflect great ambitions and define practical ways of achieving them. But it must be frankly said that a great part of the reasons for the failure to implement these plans consist primarily in the inherent reasons to which leader Al-Asad referred. Specifically these are our low productivity, lack of discipline in work, and a diminishing sense of responsibility. Available figures about productivity in our basic economic sectors do not inspire much pleasure. Despite the steps taken to increase productivity in agriculture and industry, productivity is below the required level and development in this field is still slow.

It is no secret that all our plans and all our economic, social, and political aspirations will remain threatened if we do not work and strive to increase productivity in all fields. It has been established that peoples grow and develop in proportion to what they produce and not to what they consume. Therefore, seeking to increase productivity is the key to solving our economic problems. There are no magic keys to this solution.

In this regard we must point out an important aspect, which is the need to pay attention to the type and quality of products. It is illogical to flood the market with poor-quality home-produced goods and claim that we have increased production and implemented the plan. Moreover, the implementation of the plan should not be evaluated without taking into consideration the amount of the raw material used and wasted. The whole world is now tending toward increasing production while decreasing the use of raw material and additional expenditure. In other words increasing production should be the result of increasing productivity and not of increasing investments and materials used.

These standards should be taken into consideration when evaluating any of our economic plans. And, since we are talking about increasing productivity, it must be said that we have many means of accomplishing this task.

A material incentive should be given to our workers and farmers in order to increase production and encourage personal initiative. A highly productive worker or farmer producing high-quality goods should not receive the same pay as his less productive colleague producing poor-quality goods.

In this regard, the collective contract experiment which has begun to spread in some of our factories is worth studying; it is a good beginning to create personal incentive to increase productivity.

Achieving a high level of productivity is absolutely impossible as long as there is a certain slackness in bringing to account those who fail in production and a lack of seriousness in observing strict discipline in work. Discipline in work is an important key to our economic progress. The necessary administrative and educational measures should be taken to impose and spread discipline so that it becomes a daily habit in our behavior and life.

We have yet another important means to increase productivity and improve the quality of products, which is the policy of product pricing. This aspect must be exploited and turned into an incentive to increase productivity and improve quality, and not the other way round. In order for this to be achieved, new objective criteria must be laid down for pricing our national products on the basis of paying a higher price for good-quality products and a lower price for low-quality products and giving the producing source direct financial responsibility for the production of material and holding it accountable for doing so. Such an approach to pricing our national products will create a great material incentive for companies and individuals to increase productivity and improve quality. A number of countries have adopted special quality indicators that are applied only to high-quality products.

It must be said that our socialist economic system has provided us with several means and advantages which, if properly utilized, can lead to increasing productivity.

In his recent speech to the People's Assembly leader Al-Asad defined the fundamental tasks of our economic progress in the coming stage, which is to move from the stage of economic imbalance by increasing productivity, curbing consumption, and exercising the right of control and shouldering responsibility. He defined the objective of all this as building a strong economic base capable of meeting the requirements of the people and of defense.

What is required of all of us now is to "whip up our physical, mental, psychological, and intellectual powers" in order to achieve this task and provide economic and food security for our people.

We are called upon to prove to everybody that politically and militarily strong Syria is capable of becoming economically strong and that our domestic front is solid, cohesive, and capable of achieving the goals we desire.

The task is clear and so is the objective; we must now show perseverance in work. This is the stage of action and collective national effort to build a strong and modern Syria.

Peres on Latest Al-Asad Statements, Security Zone

TA181457 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1450 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has said that the latest statements by Syrian President al-Asad that the Golan Heights will become the center of Syria have a warlike character. Shim'on Peres said that when the Syrian president reaches strategic parity with Israel it is not inconceivable that he will want to act against us.

In reply to a question by our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz during a tour of the Galilee Panhandle, the prime minister said Israel has no interest in holding on to the security zone for any length of time and the IDF will leave the security strip when attempts by terrorists to attack the northern border stop.

On another issue, the rotation, the prime minister reiterated that despite what is occurring in Herut, he will maintain the rotation.

Further on Al-Asad Statements

TA181745 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres thinks Israel should remain alert on the border with Syria, but not be drawn into a verbal confrontation with Damascus, despite President al-Asad's warlike statements. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports that the prime minister said this while on a tour of the north.

As for the situation on the Lebanese border, Mr Peres said our situation there is better than it was 10 months ago. The security arrangements that rely on the security zone are the best and there is no intention of changing them.

On another matter, the prime minister said no Druze in the Golan Heights should be forced to accept Israeli citizenship.

Rabin Comments on Importance of Peace With Egypt

TA181755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin is currently speaking at Tel Aviv University at a seminar being held on the occasion of 7 years since the signing of the peace accords with Egypt. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal is at the convention site, and he reports from there:

[Begin recording] [Tal] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said today that 7 years have passed since the signing of the peace agreement with Egypt, and only now do we understand what an upheaval it was. As far as Syria is concerned, I do not see any condition available, out of all the conditions necessary, to achieve peace; as regards Jordan, several conditions do exist, but the regime there would not be secure were peace achieved. Against this backdrop it can be understood how important peace with Egypt is, and it should be strengthened; not at any price, Rabin said, but with every effort.

[Rabin] Seven years have passed since the peace agreement was signed. I have no doubt, and I have said this before, that this bears utmost importance, in the fact that it has forced the awareness, even in closed minds, that peace is possible. Second, it has significantly changed the strategic reality in the Arab world's attitude toward Israel. Had Egypt continued the policy it maintained from 1948 until 1975/1977 — a policy of military buildup, of leading the Arab world in a hostile policy of battle, and encouraging terrorism against Israel — I do not know what our military-security situation would be like today. [end recording]

Shamir, Levi Meet To End Herut Deadlock

TA190550 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] The conciliation meeting between Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Housing Minister David Levi ended last night with agreement to meet again soon in order to end the dispute in the Herut Party. The details from Tzvi Pantanowitz:

[Begin recording] Both sides made it clear that the meeting was held in good atmosphere and that a fresh attempt was made to patch up the differences that looked beyond repair early Thursday morning last week, when the Herut Party convention collapsed in total disarray. Levi says the ice has been broken. Vice Premier Shamir was at pains to make it plain that last night's meeting was not held at the initiative of Ari'el Sharon. Sharon had adopted the role of mediator in recent days, suggesting in effect a division of the three key posts in the party as a solution to the deadlock. To meet with Levi, I don't need a mediator, Shamir said. Levi said simply: Shamir took the initiative, I was invited, I came.

Both sides agreed to meet again soon after consulting with their relative camps. Shamir made it clear that on his part there would be no footdragging. On the issues themselves, Shamir said it was necessary to reach agreement before calling the party convention. Sources close to Levi told the Voice of Israel that he is still insisting on a democratic solution to the power deadlock which theoretically could necessitate another vote on the convention floor, a potentially explosive move again, or agreement by Shamir beforehand to recognize the majority Levi claims. But for the record, Levi simply says there should be an agreed solution.

All the Likud Cabinet ministers are meeting today in a regular weekly session. It is not clear whether the controversial aspects of the party dispute will be aired there today. [end recording]

Australia Begins Pulling Forces Out of MFO

TA190704 Jerusalem The JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Mar 86 p 2

[Report by the defense affairs correspondent]

[Text] The Australian contingent to the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) in the Sinai began to withdraw yesterday.

The 110-man contingent is being pulled out following a pre-election promise by Prime Minister Robert Hawke. The Australian soldiers are to be replaced by Canadians.

Former Testimony Claims Demjanjuk Killed in 1943

TA191056 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] The interrogation of Nazi war criminal John Demjanjuk known as Ivan the Terrible, continues at Ayyalon Prison. Meanwhile, previously unpublished testimony of a Treblinka survivor turned up at Bar Ilan University's Holocaust Research Institute. According to this testimony, Demjanjuk was killed in the concentration camp during an uprising by the inmates on 2 August 1943. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that Israeli police and the state attorney are currently looking into this extraordinary evidence.

[Begin Ben-Melekh recording] First of all, it should be emphasized that this is not legal evidence or eyewitness testimony. Even the testifier cannot be interrogated because he passed away 1 year ago. In any event, the reference is to the testimony of a Jew who was an inmate at Treblinka, who was one of the mutineers who brought about the end of the extermination in August 1943, and who was one of the few persons who survived and emigrated to Israel. This is extraordinary testimony in view of the large amount of evidence gathered in Israel and overseas describing the horrible crimes committed by Ivan the Terrible; it seems to be the only piece of evidence in Israel which unambiguously sets forth the fate of the war criminal as death at the hands of the Jews during the Treblinka uprising.

In the section of the testimony describing the events of the uprising on 2 August 1943, the following is stated: Around 1500 to 1600 the Germans were busy having tea and the Ukrainians were at the site. Suddenly we heard the sound of a shot from the first camp. Upon hearing the shot, I took a hammer in my hand and ran to the well. Later it says: The guardpost of the Ukrainians was not too far from the well, and there were machineguns and senior guards there. Our friends were in the kitchen. I shouted: Guys, get going, bring water, everything is on fire. Those who were standing by the well began beating the Ukrainians in the head with clubs, and we seized a pistol. Then we broke the fence. Another group ran to the gas chambers and killed Ivan (Groszni), Polish for the Terrible, and his friend, and threw their bodies into the fire. We set the gas chambers on fire. The Germans and the Ukrainians were confused. The uprising lasted an hour.

These are quotes from the testimony given by the late Abraham Goldfarb, who was known in Treblinka as Herschele Letesk. In the camp, he was tasked with burning up dead bodies. He emigrated to Israel around the time of the foundation of the State of Israel and lived in Petah Tiqva. The testimony was collected in the framework of a special historical project conducted by the late Professor Me'ir-Mark Dworzetsky of Bar Ilan University. He ordered dozens of his students to interview holocaust survivors and to take their testimonies first-hand. The testimonies were filed in special files in the Holocaust Research Institute. Goldfarb was interviewed by Hana Feitel of Pardes Hana. The date of the interview is not noted, but it seems that it took place in the 1960's or the early 1970's. The testimony is identified by the letter gimel and the number eight, and is typewritten on nine pages.

I have been told by the institute that the file was checked only recently to look for material related to Treblinka, and Goldfarb's remarks have only now been noticed. Officials at the Holocaust Research Institute emphasize that the testimonies are not free of errors and should be taken with caution. In any event, Israeli police and the state attorney asked for a photocopy of the testimony this week, and this was sent to them.

Finally, despite Goldfarb's testimony, Demjanjuk has been positively identified in the United States as Ivan the Terrible of Treblinka by many witnesses from the United States and Israel. Nevertheless, Abraham Goldfarb's testimony introduces a new dimension to the interrogation which cannot be ignored. The spokesman of the Justice Ministry told me in reaction that no details whatsoever would be disclosed while the investigation is continuing. [end recording]

'AL HAMISHMAR on 'Arafat's Decline in Status

TA171215 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 17 Mar 86 p 6

[Commentary by Pinhas 'Inbari: "'Arafat in the Vise of the Superpowers"]

[Text] A correct look into the maze or intricacies of internal politics in the territories may uncover many of the secrets of the struggles within the PLO, as well as the internal struggles within this Palestinian organization regarding his future path. Looking through this window into the territories indicates that the struggles and remarks within the PLO go much deeper than what emerges from the official announcements or the reports emanating from outside the territories.

The great danger presently lying at the door of the Palestinian organization is very basic: Consolidating a new interbloc agreement regarding the PLO's role in the political process and hence also regarding the PLO's international status in general, with the most worrisome element being initial signs of change in the Soviet stance. To date, despite the official declarations, and thanks to its political flexibility, the PLO had the support of the two great superpowers in times of crisis. This was clearly demonstrated in the Lebanese war: The United States extricated 'Arafat safely from Beirut, while the Soviet Union extricated him safely from Tripoli. In these instances the two superpowers kept their two "clients" from hurting 'Arafat: The United States held Israel back, and the Soviet Union restrained Syria. 'Arafat's moment of truth is approaching, and the stance of the superpowers is not clear.

The deterioration in 'Arafat's status began with the rapprochement between Jordan and Syria. In the meeting in Damascus between Husayn and Al-Asad, understanding was reached on two points: a joint appeal to the USSR for it to agree to the convening of an international conference without the PLO, and a joint effort to change the composition of the PLO Executive

Committee to leave 'Arafat in the minority. Jordan promised to test its influence on the Palestinian personages who are close to it, such as 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, the PNC speaker; Mahmud 'Abbas (Abu Mazin); 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, the commander of the PLO forces in Jordan; and others. Syria promised that if this indeed happens it will instruct Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] to return to the PLO, thus increasing 'Arafat's isolation.

The central role played by the USSR in the Jordanian-Syrian scheme to depose him compelled 'Arafat to listen closely to what the Soviet ambassador in Amman had to tell him, and therefore he could not boost the understanding with the United States which was emerging in the preliminary talks held by Hani al-Hasan in Amman prior to 'Arafat's visit. Al-Hasan had, already, reached promising formulas regarding recognition of UN Resolutions 242 and 338 in return for U.S. recognition of the Palestinians' legitimate rights, as well as the PLO's renunciation of terror, along the lines of the Cairo declaration. However, 'Arafat winked at the Soviet Union and curbed the process of rapprochement with the United States: Upon arrival in Jordan he canceled the understandings worked out by Hani al-Hasan. Still, Jordan did not despair, and even after the king's speech in which he announced a halt to the corrdination with the PLO, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], went to Amman for talks which focused on the possibility of changing the composition of the PLO Executive Committee in the spirit of the Jordanian-Syrian understanding. However, Abu Jihad was not prepared to lend a hand to reducing 'Arafat's influence, especially not in view of the sudden tidings about Zafir al-Masri's murder which was followed by the large demonstration of support for 'Arafat in Nabulus, the town which sent two senior ministers — the foreign affairs minister and the minister of occupied territories' affairs — to the Jordanian Government and Hikmat al-Masri as the vice president of the Senate [The Jordanian House of Notables], thus proving that the time was not ripe to act against the PLO leader.

However, if 'Arafat believed that the Soviet Union would save him again, he was in for a disappointment. He was invited to Moscow to the Communist Party congress, but his visit was accorded a low profile and, unlike in the past, he was not received by the Soviet leaders. The Prague talks with the representatives of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine were another disappointment to him. 'Arafat had grounds to believe that the Soviet Union would reward him for curbing the process of rapprochement with the United States by foiling the Jordanian-Syrian plan; he was even tempted to believe that the Soviets would help him reunite the PLO under his leadership, but in Prague 'Arafat felt that the Soviets were also setting a trap for him. They indeed encouraged PLO unity, but only in order to consolidate a majority against him, a majority which will lead to his removal.

It is not by accident that the Prague talks were held with Nayif Hawatimah's Democratic Front (although there was a small representation there also for George Habash's organization [the Popular Front of the Liberation of Palestine] and for the Palestinian Communists). Hawatimah's supporters in the territories take care not to break their link with 'Arafat, and in the elections for student bodies, for instance, they did not organize in joint lists with the Popular Front or the Communists, and ran on an independent ticket. In power struggles in the trade unions too the Hawatimah supporters acted independently or separately. The message was clear: The supporters of the Democratic Front are waiting for an opportunity to make peace with 'Arafat. The Democratic Front differs from the Popular Front in that it more faithfully expresses the stand of the Soviet Union, especially with regard to the arguments between Moscow and Damascus over the political process, while the Popular Front is closer to the Syrian position. If 'Arafat believed he would hear Moscow's true position from the Democratic Front's representatives he surely had room for concern: According to a report in the East Jerusalem *AL-FAJR*, in its English version (dated 18 February 1986), the Hawatimah representatives made demands which meant the deposing of 'Arafat.

They first demanded the elimination of the position of chairman and the establishment of a collective leadership for the PLO. Second, they demanded the cancellation of the Husayn-'Arafat agreement, and even an after-the-fact invalidation of the PNC in Amman. What may not have reached the attention of the English issue of *AL-FAJR* is that Hawatimah's people levelled sharp criticism at the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue. "You should at least have obtained concession from the United States," they threw at him. "The dialogue with the Americans was reflected only in Palestinian concession," they ruled.

'Arafat understood he was trapped. The Soviets may be willing to help unite the PLO, but not necessarily under his leadership, and if the Democratic Front's position also reflects the Soviet position, then the Soviets were sending him not only to renew the dialogue with Jordan, but also with the United States. What is the USSR interested in? This is difficult to say, but one thing is clear: It does not treat him as an indispensable or irreplaceable leader any longer. The Soviet policy may not have been consolidated yet: On the one hand the Soviets demonstrate willingness to ignore Syrian requests for his removal, and on the other hand, they maintain that 'Arafat is a first-rate asset for the peace process by virtue of his position as a symbol of Palestinian legitimacy as well as his intention in principle to participate in the peace efforts. [sentence as published]

If there is indeed a wavering in the attitude here then it is reflected in the different attitude toward 'Arafat by the two communist parties in Israel: the Palestinian Communist Party of Bashir Baghruti, and the Israeli RAKAH, which is very much involved in politics in the territories. While the Palestinian Communists find it difficult to conceal their hostility toward 'Arafat, the sympathy for him on the part of the Israeli Communists stands out. This was reflected, for example, in the way in which the different communist publications reported on King Husayn's speech. While the Palestinian *AL-TALI'A* wrote that Husayn stopped the coordination with 'Arafat, the Israeli *AL ITTIHAD* wrote about a cessation of the Jordanian coordination with the PLO. The sting is clear: The Palestinian Communists distinguish between the PLO and 'Arafat, while the Israeli Communists still place 'Arafat at the head of the PLO. One of the leaders of the Israeli Communist Party explained to me that the Israeli Communists do not want to intervene in an internal Palestinian dispute, and that is the reason for the difference between them and their Palestinian colleagues, but support for 'Arafat constitutes the adoption of position nowadays. One should also take into consideration the fact that 'Arafat supported the Israeli Communists in their great hour of trial against their opponents on the Israeli Arab street, and the Israeli Communists surely remember this gesture. In addition, there is a difference between the Isreali and Palestinian Communists from the point of view of the composition of their camps of allies and opponents. While the Palestinian Communists are allies with Habash's supporters, the groups in Israel which are identified with Habash's supporters, such as the Sons of the Village group, are hostile to the communists. The above-mentioned senior communist official told us that a change has occurred in this regard lately, and that some of the circles in the Sons of the Village group are getting closer to the communists. At any event, 'Arafat's position on the left-hand side of the political spectrum was undermined, and differences in the positions of RAKAH and Baghruti may reflect the absence of a final decision by the Kremlin.

The two parties, the Israeli and the Palestinian, often address the present PLO leadership as the PLO's official one. In other words, they treat 'Arafat as the PLO leader only since he has not yet been deposed. Since it is the official policy of the USSR to recognize national liberation movements, with the PLO being one of them, the communists recognize 'Arafat as a leader, but only formally so.

Since the detente between Nixon and Brezhnev the two superpowers have tried to coordinate their policy on the Palestinian issue as much as possible. Therefore, the final position of the USSR will be determined according to coordination talks with the other global superpower, the United States. Some announcements on the Palestinian issue that were jarring for Israel have lately been heard in Washington, and it seems that the United States is advancing in the PLO direction. However, U.S. diplomats too are only human beings, and their disappointment with 'Arafat's latest maneuvers were reflected in several talks which I have lately held with them. The disappointment was expressed with very undiplomatic curses aimed at 'Arafat, but feelings and interests are two separate things: The United States still views 'Arafat as an asset, and probably does not believe he can be deposed. The United States will conduct the main struggle in the coming future against militant Syria, and it is therefore interested in renewed ties between Husayn and 'Arafat.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid To Pay Visit USSR 'Shortly'

LD191213 Algiers APS in English 1100 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Algiers, 19/03/86 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, FLN party secretary general will shortly pay an official friendship visit in the USSR at the invitation of the C.C. Soviet Communist Party, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviets and the Soviet Government.

Reportage on Visit by Lebanon's Walid Junblatt

Received by Bendjedid

LD182056 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid received this morning at the Presidency headquarters Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Socialist Progressive Party. The meeting was attended by Brothers Abderrezzak Bouhara, member of the permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee in charge of external relations; Sadek Zouaten, member of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee in charge of the Council of Friendship and Solidarity With the Peoples; and Abdelkader Benkaci, head of the Department of International Affairs and Cooperation at the Presidency of the Republic.

Holds Press Conference; Departs

LD182137 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Walid Junblatt, chairman of the Progressive Socialist Party, left this afternoon after a visit to Algeria which lasted a number of days, during which he was received by Brother President Chadli Bendjedid. Mr Junblatt held talks with the brother officials of the FLN.

He was seen off at Houari Boumediene International Airport by Sadek Zouaten, member of the permanent secretary in charge of the council for Friendship and Solidarity With the Peoples. Before his departure from Algiers Walid Junblatt held a press conference in which he reviewed the current Lebanese situation and the strong relations which link the FLN and the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party. In reply to a question about the current situation in Lebanon and the future prospects of putting an end to the crisis Walid Junblatt said:

[Begin Junblatt recording] It is difficult to arrive at a political solution while the Phalangist party and a section of the authorities collaborate with Israel and with suspicious plans like the American plans. (?It is difficult) to arrive at a settlement in Lebanon if we do not also take into consideration the Israeli-Arab conflict and the solution of the Palestinian problem in a reasonable and just way. Matters are very complicated. Therefore, it is necessary for the national Lebanese, Palestinian, Arab, and Syrian ranks to unite in order to face the Israeli occupation of the south. There must be a strengthening of ranks inside Lebanon because matters are very complicated there and threaten to blow up. [end recording]

With regard to relations between the FLN and the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, he pointed out:

[Begin Junblatt recording] A discussion of the latest Arab situation was held with the comrades of the FLN in Algiers and I believe that the meeting (?was very satisfactory and dealt) especially with the dangers facing the Arab world, and particularly the Zionist danger, and [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Bitat Returns from Amman Arab Parliamentary Session

LD171117 Algiers APS in English 1031 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Algiers, 17/03/86 (APS) — The People's National Assembly president, Rabah Bitat was back here Saturday, coming from Amman (Jordan) where he took part to [as received] the 4th conference of the Arab Parliamentary Union. In his report before the plenary session, Bitat cited the Arab conjuncture and the terrorist acts perpetrated recently by the Zionist entity and imperialism.

He called, on this purpose, the Arab countries to put an end to their disputes, to organize their ranks and to mobilize their potential for the defense of the Arab nation. He pointed out that the Palestinian cause constitutes the main line of the struggle around which the Arab countries should rally, because it is the symbol and the honour of the Arab nation.

As far as the conflict of the Gulf is concerned, Bitat launched a call for Iran and Iraq to show wisdom and to banish the use of weapons and to work together for a peaceful settlement of their conflict.

On another turn, Bitat cited the last developments on the international economic situation and called the Arab countries to close the ranks to defend themselves from this crisis aftermaths which may deal a blow to their sovereignty. It is worthy of note that the Arab parliamentaries decided to create a commission under the chairmanship of the Jordanian parliament's president, including Tunisia, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates to seek a settlement to the marginal disputes which hamper the Arab world action.

LIBYA

World Forum Anti-Imperialism Conference Continues

Delegations Address Conference 17 March

LD181817 Tripoli JANA in English 1910 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 6, Mars. 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Second International General Conference for World Forum to Combat Imperialism, Zionism, Racism, Reaction and Fascism continues its sessions this evening in the People's Hall -- Tripoli.

At the beginning of the session, the head of the Kurdistani delegation addressed the session. He greeted the leader of the revolution for his deep understanding of the tragedy of the Kurdish people and his brave presentation of this tragedy in his opening address. He said: "This important attitude of an Arab liberation leader, which was taken for the first time in history, has positively and to large extent resulted in strengthening the Arab-Kurd brotherhood. This attitude will eternally remain in our minds. We highly appreciate the revolutionary stances of leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi towards our just cause for he was the first world leader to defend the Kurdish nation".

The head of the Kurdistani delegation, in his speech, pointed out to the tragedy the Kurdish nation is experiencing as a result of the tyranny of the present ruling regime in Iraq and its oppressive fascist and racist policies. He said: "Apart from the undeclared war of annihilation in Kurdistan in which tens of thousands of lives of our people were lost, the bloody terror, the mass murders, chasings, torture, destruction of villages and the driving away of thousands of Kurds to the south, centre and outside Iraq, there are nearly daily execution campaigns. This regime has hurled our country into a war of aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran".

He put the responsibility and the burden of the outcome of this war it fueled, driven by imperialism and reaction, against the Islamic revolution in Iran which toppled the biggest bastion of reaction and puppetry in the region, which stood by the side of the Arab nation and its cause of liberating Palestine.

He called on the world nation's liberation movements to consolidate the links of co-operation and solidrity among them and struggle for urgent issues which [are] of interest to the peoples on top of which is the struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction and for peace and liberation.

He supported the suggestions speakers in yesterday's session put forward to adopt the leadler's speech addressing the conference as a working people for this conference and stress upon the points it included in connection with the states of the UN Security Council, the veto, the human rights declaration and the nations' right to live in peace and revolt against their enemies.

Also spoke was [as received] the Ghanaian head of delegation. He demanded that the important speech, the leader of the revolution delivered addressing the conference, be adopted as a working document for the forum for what important points it contained. In its address, the Ghanaian delegation hailed the stances of the leader of the revolution and his standing by the nations that struggle for their freedom. Once again, he declared Ghana's standing by the side of the Libyan Arab people in its brave confrontation with U.S. imperialist provocations and threats. He called on all the world revolutionary forces to unify their ranks against their joint enemy -- imperialism. He said: "This unification is the only way which will ensure our victory over imperialism. He pointed out that experiences had proven this fact.

The delegation of Ghana reviewed the U.S. crimes in Africa and Latin America. In his speech, he demanded that the world revolutionary forces must raise their hands everywhere to combat despotism, racism and imperialism and stand by the side of the liberation movements which struggle for freedom.

He confirmed that the struggle for peace and the solidarity with all the peace-loving forces is an urgent basic duty of all the liberation and progressive movements. He said: "Our parties' gathering with you here is a bright evidence and a lively embodiment of our solidarity with and support of Jamahiriyah in its firm confrontation to the blunt threats of U.S. and French imperialism. It also confirms our standing by the side of Arab liberation movements, by Syria, by the Palestinian resistence and by the Lebanese national movement". He confirmed that nations' steadfastness and their will to struggle is bigger and stronger than imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

The Honduran delegation confirmed, in its address to the conference, on the need and importance to confront imperialism and its terrorist practices against Jamahiriyah and others in every spot in the world. Those practices that do not allow nations to establish independence, freedom and development to arrive at prosperity and happiness. [as received]

He announced the joining of his movement and the lively forces in Honduras to the initiative of forming a united and revolutionary force for the purpose of combatting imperialism. He confirmed his backings to the struggle towards equality among nations and states. He said: "This struggle concerns first of all the forces that struggle against imperialism and for the freedom of man".

In his speech, the head of the Honduran delegation highlighted the role of Jamahiriyah in resisting imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction and fascism. He said: "We are sure that Jamahiriyah will continue its policies in this direction". He expressed his gratitude to the people of Jamahiriyah for the gains its extended, its aid and continued support to reserve peace in the world. He denounced the terrorism practices by imperialism and its allied countries and all those who oppress and suppress nations colonising their natural resources all over the world.

The head of the Kanak Front's delegation, in its address, stressed the importance of exerting efforts and uniting nations in a mass force to struggle against imperialism, Zionism and racism wherever they are to be found around the world. He expressed the solidarity of the front of the Kanak people with all the nations that struggle for independence and freedom. He called for the endorsement of what the leader's Saturday speech included and put it as an agenda to this conference.

With regards to the French colonising of the Kanak islands, he confirmed that France is using its country as a strategic base to defend its interests and the interests of its allies apart from robbing their wealth. He pointed out that what France has done to the *Greenpeace* ship and said: "That is considered as a clear example of the work of French imperialism". He presented the 136 year history of the French colonialism to his country. He pointed out that the Kanak people had suffered hardship from French colonialism which greatly resembles what the people of South Africa suffer. He confirmed that the Kanak people is determined to continue its struggle against French colonialism and imperialism in alliance with other nations to confront imperialism, racism, Zionism and reaction. He warned that world imperialism will never retreat unless it is confronted and resisted by an international revolutionary front.

At the end of his speech, he hailed the steadfastness of the Libyan Arab people in confronting imperialism and Zionism and their hostile threats he confirmed that Libya will never be a Grenada, because the Libyan people is determined to defend itself against the threats of imperialism and its blunt provocations.

Also addressed the conference was the head of the red Indians' delegation which headquarters is being in Los Angeles. He pointed out that his organisation works with most other organisations in the western side of the United States to weaken the foundation of U.S. imperialism and U.S. colonialism. He called for the establishment and laying the foundation of a wide joint front to confront imperialism. He suggested that Jamahiriyah becomes the base of such front.

The head of the red Indians organisation's delegation condemned the United Nations for ignoring nations' interests and concentrate all its efforts to the benefit of the governments that stand against the struggle of nations for freedom and independence. He said: "We oppose this organisation, we want to establish and lay down the foundation of a new internationalistic organisation which supportsnations' struggle and defend their interests". He strongly denounced the U.S. Government terrorism and the individuals who rule the U.S. now for five centuries and who do not belong at all to this land, who turned that land into a capital for terrorism and made it a terrifying ghost to all the world's nations. A proof of that is all those who addressed this conference have condemned the U.S. Government. He added that red Indians are determined to continue their struggle and block the road of this terrifying ghost.

A delegation of the Iraqi National Democratic Front (INDF) addressed the conference expressing INDF's solidarity with all the movements and fronts taking part in this conference and their legitimate struggle against imperialism, the fascist regimes and all forms of opperssion and manipulation. He greeted the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and its leader for giving him the chance to attend this important international meeting to discuss the best ways aimed at enhancing nations' struggle for freedom and the preservation of their independence away from despotism.

He addressed the audience by saying: "Since the Ba'thist ruling regime took power in our country, our Iraqi people is suffering terror, torture and detention on the hands of those fascist rulers". He added: "This regime has turned Iraq into a huge prison for its sons. Our Kurdish people in Iraq are facing a new war launched by the fascist regime against it". He went on to say: "This regime instead of standing by the side of the Islamic revolution which toppled the puppet regime of the shah in Iran, it launched its vicious war against it for the sake of imperialism, Zionism and reaction. It prepared the Iraqi people for a real slaughter. He decalred that INDF is struggling to stop this war calling on the masses of the Iraqi people to unite their ranks to defeat this fascist regime, spread democracy in Iraq, and grant self rule to Kurdistan."

At the end of his speech he said: "Our people in Iraq highly appreciate the struggling role of both the Libyan Arab and the Syrian leaderships and their standing against U.S. plots".

After that, "SUPA" movements' delegation of Gambia addressed the conference. He expressed his deep gratitude to the Libyan Arab people and its revolutionary leadership for the service they present to support freedom fighters in all fields. He highly valued the great efforts Jamahiriyah exerts in the field of self-sufficiency and its liberation from imperial domination and colonial manipulation. He called for consolidation and rank-closing to resist imperialism, Zionism and racism and highten the struggle against them.

In today's session, a delegation from the Cypriot Socialist Party took part. He started his speech by declaring his party's solidarity with the Libyan Arab people in its confrontation with U.S. imperialist provocations. He said that the escalation of imperialist provocations against the friendly Libyan Arab people and the recent events opposite the Gulf of Sidra make us confirm once more that this Gulf was and will continue to be Libya's, and the Americans have no right in the region.

On the imperialist onslaught against small nations to have regions of influence and hegemony, he points out that this policy will only lead to an overall devastation. He also asserts that the Zionist invasion of the Lebanon couldn't have been conducted without U.S. imperialist support.

The head of the Sierra Leone's revolutionary committee says in his speech that this conference is a historic event giving a chance to us to unify our efforts to lay down a strategy against imperialism, pointing out that all revolutionary forces worldwide are determined to do so. He also calls for the abolition of veto at UN Security Council, asserting the necessity of studying and analyzing the leaders' speech on this point and other issues. He also warns the United States against any attack on Libya, stressing that they are ready to create 4 or 5 Vietnams in Africa and that the leader of the revolution should be the leader of world revolution.

The head of the delegation of [words indistinct] Peru says that the conditions of the peoples of South America have ushered in a unique revolutionary stage. As an example the struggle in Nicaragua, Cuba and the Chilean resistence, not to mention the movements that escalate their struggles against imperialism including the struggle of the people of Ecuador. He has requested the participant in the conference to stand for one minute in silence mourning for the assassination of the leader of Colombia's 19th April movement. He also lauds the speech of the leader of the revolution asserting that they agree on the abolition of the veto. He stresses that the forces present at conference can easily defeat imperialism through resistence and unity.

The delegate of the revolutionary liberation movements in Congo and Zaire vigorously condemns the imperialist incursions in the African continents, the Zionist infiltrations in it and the reactionary and racist oppression practised in South Africa, pointing out that U.S. aggressive provocations against Libya is but a proof of above.

He calls for adopting what has been laid down in the leader's speech as an official documents of conference.

He also denounces the regime of puppet Mobutu who has brought in foreign military bases in the country to protect his regime and to make it possible to launch aggression against neighboring peoples. He also stresses that the revolutionary forces in his country stand by other revolutionary forces worldwide.

Mr. R. Doglas addresses the conference on behalf of the International Committee for Coordination in the Caribbean Sea region that comprises liberation movements St Lucia, Antigua, Dominica, Jamaica, Belize, Trinidad and the revolutionary movement Barbados.

For all the above movements he salutes the leader of the revolution, stressing that imperialism is bound to be vanquished, calling for the unity of all revolutionary forces to strike imperialism with a final blow. He also calls for establishing another organization in [passage indistinct].

Then the following organizations have contributed in the discussions of the conference: The Socialist Youth, the Brazilian Socialist Party, Malawi Socialist Association, Bangladesh B. Party, Red Indians in North America, the British Workers' Revolutionary Party, the black organizations in U.K., H. People-s' African and Red Indian organization in South America, All-African Revolutions Party, the Senegalese Revolutionary Committees' Movement, the communist party (internal) in Greece, the Greek Committee for combatting U.S. bases, the Greek committee for world peace, the Greek committee for democratic solidarity, the Cypriot Communist Party (AKEL), the movement for abolishing parties in Italy, Institute for Disseminating Arab and Cypriot Cults, the Unified Committee for Disarmament in Comiso, the International Committee of the Foreign Movement in Italy, the Movement of Revolutionary Arab Committees, Committee in Solidarity with Afro-Arab; Latin America peoples and Poland, the democratic and progressive forces in Bangladesh, the Peoples Movement, the T. Evolution, the General Union of Muslim Youth in Nigeria, Zairean Revolutionary Committees Movement, the revolutionary committees in Al-Qamar islands, the revolutionary committees in Mauritius. [all names as received]

They submitted their written speeches to the formulating committee at conference. They are the parties of Andalucia, R. revolutionary committees, SWAPO organization [words indistinct], the New Green Movement in Austria and B. Party in Switzerland.

The delegation of the Palestinian Liberation Movement submitted to conference a written contribution on the interconnection between the struggle for liberating Palestine and that against imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction and fascism.

We stress that what has been pointed out at the beginning of the session by the executive member of the bureau is but a collection of the principles of the thoughts discussed by conference and they in no way constitute a final political formulation.

Addresses Continue 18 March

LD181901 Tripoli JANA in English 1747 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 7 March 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Second International General Conference of World Forum for Combatting Imperialism, Zionism, Racism, Reaction and Fascism resumed its sessions this morning. The head of the Soviet delegation confirmed that the Libyan Arab people is an example for nations that are confronting imperialism and Zionism which continue to provoke them. He pointed out that this people which gathered around its revolutionary leadership was able to bravely confront those provocations and foiled all imperialist-Zionist schemes and defeated them at all arenas.

In his address, he praised Libyan Arab people's role, in backing the libertion causes in the world, and the accomplishment it achieved in various fields on the land of the great Al-Fateh.

He talked about the development of the relation between Libya and the Soviet Union and said: "The recent visit of the leader of the revolution to Moscow has contributed in the development of those relations". He confirmed that the Soviet Union support the nations' struggle for freedom and in particular the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people.

Also in the morning session, the envoy from 'TALID' movement of India addressed the conference praising the efforts of leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and his brave standing by the side of the liberation movements, the oppressed, defeated and ignored nations in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

In his address he [word indistinct] the concentration of the efforts of the oppressed nations to struggle against all forms of racial discrimination and colonialism. He said: "This is what the international leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi stressed in his important address to this conference". He expressed support for the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in its brave confrontation with imperialist and Zionist provocations.

The envoy from the Ashai Liberation Movement [words indistinct] confirmed that all the nations of the world had condemned the U.S. imperialist and Zionist provocations against the Libyan Arab people and its revolutionary leadership. He said: "We are ready to fight side by side with the Libyan Arab people in its confrontation with America and its hirelings in defence of freedom and the choices of the nations we respect and appreciate".

He added: "Our meeting here on the land of the great Al-Fateh is devoted to the service of world nations' causes. Those nations that struggle for freedom and the final liberation from all sorts of oppression, despotism and tyranny". He confirmed that the leader's speech should be our guide in our deeds. He called for the quick establishment of united fighting forces from all the liberation movements to defend freedom in the world.

The representative of New Goyan National Liberation Organisation denounced France's colonial policy by saying: "It practiced and still practices the ugliest forms of oppression and despotism against the people of Goyan which struggles to gain freedom. It robbed it from its wealths and destroyed its economic potentials". He added: "France has violated the Goyan territories, staging military manoeuvres and smashed our national forces. The people of Goyan has and are resisting for years the French colonialism". He denounced France's imperialist policy in Chad and its unlimited backing for the cliques of renegades in Ndjamena. He said: "The French people should put an end to its government policy against nations. Africa for Africans and there is no alliance for African except with itself."

He confirmed that the important speech of leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has great significance. He demanded that it should be considered as an important document of the conference. He called for the quick forming of a united force to defend freedom the world over. At the end of his speech he chanted: "Long live the great Al-Fateh revolution. Down with imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction and fascism".

The envoy of the Ecuador Liberation Movement in South American confirmed that the success of the world forum in forming united fighting forces will defeat imperialism and crown the nations' struggle with final victory, and that the vicious imperialist attack on Latin American makes us concentrate armed struggle and consolidate it.

The envoy from the Union of Popular Forces in Portugal expressed solidarity with the struggle of all movements and organisations the world over. He called on the conference to consider the leader's speech as a working programme for the world forum for combatting imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction and fascism. He confirmed that the only solution to all problems of the nations that struggle for freedom is the establishment of Jamahiri regime and the handing of authority to masses.

The envoy of the Egyptian National Front called on the conference to define terrorism and terrorists and issue an international document on that showing who are the terrorists and criminals. He said: "We salute and praise the leading role of the great Al-Fateh revolution and of the Libyan Arab people in the Arab nation and towards the nations that struggle for their freedom."

He confirmed that the Arab people of Egypt highly regard the historic stance of the people of hero Omar al-Mukhtar with it in all the hardships it experienced and that the Egyptian people stands by Jamahiriyah in its brave confrontation with U.S. imperialist-Zionist conspiracies. He added that Egypt will return once again to resume its historic role in consolidating this forum as it used to do in the fifties and sixties under the leadership of the departed leader Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir.

The envoy from the Bangladesh National Salvation Party greeted the Libyan Arab people and its revolutionary leadership which confront the most vicious imperialist forces in the world. In his address to the conference, he confirmed that the true terrorists are the imperialists and Zionists and not Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi who confronts all nations' enemies and struggle to rid them from all forms of oppression, domination and supression. He said: "World's nations appreciate the stance of revolutionary international leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and are proud of his stances of support to their struggle."

The secretary-general of the Democratic Party of Senegal announced that Africa's nations struggled and still struggle to establish their freedom. Only the establishment of the armed people in Africa will ensure the success of the confrontation of imperialism and Zionism in the African Continent. He confirmed that Libya is the land of confrontation with imperialism and Zionism and that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has turned this land into a forum and a base for combatting aggression. Other states and nations should follow Libya's example.

He talked about the great popular welcome given to the leader during his recent tour in a number of West African states. "Millions of our men, women, children and old people took to the streets to welcome the African revolutionary Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in appreciation of his struggle against colonialism, imperialism and Zionism, which expressed Africa's deep appreciation of this leader."

The envoy of Britain's blacks confirmed that British society has no respect for people's dignity and it practices oppression against blacks there. He said that it was Britain which planted the racist Zionist entity in occupied Palestine. He stressed the need to set united forces to combat imperialism, Zionism, racism, fascism and reaction which Colonel al-Qadhdhafi called for in his important speech on Saturday.

The envoy of the Venezuelan Revolutionary Committee asked the conference to stand in salute for the Libyan Arab people and its revolutionary leadership in appreciation of their leading role in backing the struggle of nations and in confronting imperialist-Zionist conspiracies the world over. He confirmed that the U.S. and the Zionist entity in occupied Palestine are the only ones responsible for world terrorism.

He told the conference that the revolutionary committees are the active means and the ideal lever to instigate the masses to take over their authority, wealth and arms especially that political parties had assassinated nations' will and formed them. He said: "Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's thoughts confirm that the people is the master, is the leader and there is no one who can impose himself upon people".

The representative of the liberation movements in Pakistan stressed the need for setting the one fighting front against imperialism, Zionism, and racism as leader Al-Qadhdhafi called for. He said: "This conference convenes on the land of first Jamahiriyah in history which constituted a united nations for peoples everywhere in the world which differs completely from New York's nations. [as received]

The envoy from the progressive revolutionary front in Austria announced that European nations firmly reject the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles and weapons in Western Europe. He indicated that the European parliaments do not represent the nations of Western Europe which struggle against U.S. imperialist policy in Europe. He strongly denounced the mass murders and horrific crimes the Zionist gangs commit against the Palestinian Arab people and their mere existence on Palestine's soil is sheer terrorism and that we should fight it with all force. He added: "We support what leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi called for with regards to forming a united force to combat imperialism, Zionism, racism, fascism and reaction".

The envoy of Namibian Liberation Front-SWAPO greeted the struggle of the Libyan Arab people under the leadership of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and their continuous support for the struggle of SWAPO people for freedom. He ridiculed Reagan and said that he tries to defame the struggle of the Namibian people and falsely describes it as defending communism's interests. He denounced the brutal practices of the South African regime by killing 10-16 persons a day on average and goaling between 200-1,000 in the name of western civilization, and in the name of the international community impose economic sanctions against the racist, fascist regime of South Africa.

The representative of the ethnic minority groups in the Catalonia Province of Spain talked about the sufferings of these minorities. He called for aid to their struggle for their legitimate rights in liberation from all the imposed restraints on them. He praised the stance of the great Al-Fateh revolution towards those ethnic minorities the world over. He said that the ethnic minorities in Spain support the return of occupied Ceuta and Melilla to Morocco.

The envoy from the Moro Liberation Front of the Philippines highly valued the stances of the Libyan Arab people and its revolutionary leadership in supporting the struggle of the Muslims in the Philippines for their freedom. He declared the front's solidarity with Jamahiriyah in its brave confrontation with imperialist-Zionist conspiracies. In his speech, he talked about the recent developments in the Philippines pointing out that there are 10 million homeless in the country and talked about the front's struggle against the puppet regime of Marcos. He said that Aquino asked the front to hold dialogue with her to end the tragedies the Muslims experience.

The red Indians of South America's envoy [as received] talked about the oppression his people suffer from U.S. imperialism and racism. He referred to the leader's Dicta "Africa to the Africans" and said "America is the land of red Indians".

Several delegations handed their written speeches to the conference's Secretariat to distribute. At exactly 2:10 p.m. the morning session was adjourned to be resumed this evening.

18 March Evening Session Reported

LD191007 Tripoli JANA in English 0845 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 8, March 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The evening session of the second international general conference, SIGC, of world forum was resumed by a speech from the Nicaraguan delegation at 6:15 pm [18 March]. He confirmed that despite the small area of this country, but its people struggles for its freedom led by the Sandinistan front. [sentence as received] It managed to defeat U.S. agent, the fascist dictator Somoza.

He pointed out that there is a great task for the Nicaraguan people — to defeat U.S. imperialism. "We are determined to build our country's economy and society guided by such heroes as: Simon Birzden, Salvador Allendi, 'Abd al-Nasir, Lumumba and others.

The head of the delegation from the Korean Democratic Republic delivered his speech in which he denounced U.S. imperialist provocations which highlightened [as received] nowadays against the people of Jamahiriyah. He confirmed the standing of the Korean people by the side of the Libyan Arab people, the just struggle of the Palestinian people, the people of South Africa and the nations of South America against imperialism, Zionism and racism, pointing to the similar threats Korea faces from U.S. imperialism and the joint struggle against it.

Conference Communique Issued

LD182203 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1835 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Political communique issued on 18 March by the Second International Conference of the International Center for Combating Imperialism, Zionism, Racism, Reaction and Fascism; speaker not identified — recorded]

[Text] The peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Oceania participating in the proceedings of the Second International Conference of the International Center for Combating Imperialism, Zionism, Racism, Raction, and Fascism, through their dynamic forces, their revolutionary movements, their international revolutionary committees, their international conferences, political organizations, the peace and green movements, the alternative movements in Europe and the world, the millions of blacks, red Indians, Kurds, and all the minorities in the world which have suffered from the injustice of colonialism and are today suffering from the oppression of imperialism, Zionism, and racism, and are living through a stage of their fiercest struggle in which they are paying with blood and sweat the price of their liberation from persecution and exploitation and domination by the instruments of power, marching in their millions toward the era of the masses, an era where they will be in possession of power, wealth and arms [applause]; these forces constituting the International Center, in their second conference held in Tripoli, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, from 15-18 March 1986, under the slogan: For the strengthening of revolutionary cohesiveness and the embodiment of the principle of collective struggle in confronting imperialist, Zionist, racist, reactionary, fascist terrorism consider the speech of the brother internationalist revolutionary Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi [applause] at this conference as a basis for laying down the charter of the rights of the internationalist Jamahiri man, and for sponsoring the right of collective struggle for underprivileged peoples, as a position to be adopted at the United Nations, as a position on state terrorism and on minorities, and as a platform for their positions on the problems, issues and challenges facing the revolutionary movement in the world. [applause]

After reviewing developments and the circumstances surrounding the international revolutionary movement and the challenge imposed by the Zionist, imperialist, racist aggression upon small nations and peoples it declares:

1) The Second World Conference of the International Center for Combatting Imperialism, Zionism, Racism, Reaction, and Fas-

cism hails the courageous stance of the great Fatih revolution and its internationalist revolutionary leader, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, in confronting the wild U.S. imperialist onslaught, its aggressive threats and provocative maneuvers opposite the Libyan Arab shores and stresses that the Gulf of Sidra is part of the Libyan Arab territories and is thereby under absolute Libyan Arab sovereignty. [chants] The conference stresses the importance of adopting a resolute stance toward all regimes and institutions that are still used as an imperialist bridge for threatening the security and stability of the peoples and as a starting point for implementing terrorist policies.

2) The conference expresses its appreciation for the steadfast stance of the Sandinista revolution in confronting the U.S. imperialist plots and declares its support and backing for the Nicaraguan people and its revolution. It also supports steadfast Cuba under the leadership of Comrade Fidel Castro in consolidating its stance against American arrogance.

3) While highly appreciating the escalation in the struggle of the people of South Africa and of its revolutionary forces, and rejecting the policies of apartheid practiced by the regime of Pretoria against the black African in South Africa, this conference stresses highly that the destruction of this regime, which is supported by American imperialism and is in alliance with the racist Zionist regime in occupied Arab Palestine, is a sacred revolutionary duty not only to be shouldered by the Africans [chants] but it must be done through an international revolutionary cohesion and a comprehensive and collective struggle in which all world liberation movements take part. The year of 1986 should be considered the year of confrontation with apartheid in Africa. The conference calls upon all revolutionaries in the world [chants] to volunteer to fight against the racist regime of South Africa.

4) The conference highly praises the brave heroic stance of the Arab masses inside occupied Palestine against terrorist, racist, Zionist measures which are aimed at annihilating this people and destroying their historic right to existence on their soil. The conference condemns all barbaric acts such as killing, mass annihilation of women, of the old, and of children at the hands of the Zionist terrorist gangs.

The conference stresses its total support for the legitimate and just liberation struggle of the Palestinian fighting gun to liberate all Palestinian Arab land. It condemns all capitulative plans which are imposed by the United States and its allies.

The conference pays tribute to the valiant steadfastness of the Lebanese Arab people in confronting the Zionist racist aggression [applause] and its stubborn resistance against the hostile multinational forces under the leadership of the United States. The conference calls for supporting the Lebanese Arab progressive forces in escalating their revolutionary liberation struggle. The conference reiterates its pride in the honorable stands of the Syrian Arab people and of its revolutionary leadership against all aspects of the Zionist, racist, and imperialist aggression and its capitulative plans.

5) What the red Indian nations faced through mass annihilation wars at the hands of white invaders in North America and elsewhere will remain historic testimony to the savagery and cruelty of these invaders and a mark of shame on their successive generations.

Attempts to falsify history and turn its facts upside down, according to the plans and ambitions of the white man, will not obliterate the historic reality which affirms the right of the red Indian nation in estabishing its national homeland on the soil of its historic land. Therefore, the conference stresses its stand and support for this legitimate and just struggle. It also affirms the right of red Indians as a nation to establish its unified national entity. [applause]

6) Nations torn apart have a right to keep their national identity and to unite their sons who were subjected to geographical and political destitution and homelessness, to put right the injustice of centuries which created this problem. Proceeding from this stand, the conference expresses its support for the struggle of the Kurdish nation to achieve its national unity and its legitimate demands. [applause]

7) The conference salutes the escalation of the struggle of the heroic Iraqi people who are struggling to topple the bloody fascist regime of Saddam in Iraq. The conference condemns the criminal war launched by that regime against the Islamic revolution in Iran.

8) The popular uprisings of the black minorities and their rejection of the policies of apartheid and racial discrimination in both American and British societies stress the need to remodel these societies on the basis of justice and equality which recognizes the right of these minorities to complete participation in political, economic and social life and to enjoy what is secured by natural laws and human principles and values, and to play their full role. Therefore, the conference declares its complete support for the just and legitimate struggle of those minorities and the conference stresses its solidarity with these minorities in order to enable them to achieve their final victory in their battles against these reactionary, backward regimes.

9) The conference salutes the liberation struggle of the small progressive peoples and their steadfastness in the face of the imperialist conspiracies and challenges which are aimed at violating their freedom and independence, and in the face of attempts to contain and subjugate them politically and economically. The conference stresses its absolute solidarity and support for these peoples in defending their identity and preserving their freedom, including their right to search for a new formula for alliance and joint collective defense.

10) The conference salutes the growing rejection of the remnants of French colonialism from which the peoples of the small islands of New Caledonia, Guadeloupe, Martinique, and La Reunion are still suffering. The conference stresses the right of the peoples of these islands to self-determination and to rid themselves of the burden of colonial hegemony. The conference declares its absolute support for the liberation movements in these islands.

11) The conference stresses the importance of consolidating the joint struggle with the socialist family, headed by the Soviet

Union, in order to strengthen the cause of the freedom of peoples, to preserve their national independence, and defend their achievements.

12) Imperialism, Zionism and racism contribute to continuous terrorism threatening small peoples and nations. The most extreme form of terrorism is practiced by these forces in occupied Palestine, Namibia, and South Africa. Therefore, replying to them by armed struggle does not count as terrorism, as imperialism presents it, but it is a sacred struggle whose legitimacy stems from the right to self defense.

The conference stresses that real terrorism is state terrorism, which is practiced by American forces and the forces of neocolonialism. They dedicate their military, political, financial, and propaganda resources to terrorism in order to control and subjugate the peoples.

State terrorism is an actual reality underlined by the behaviour of the U.S. Administration in the military invasion of Grenada, Lebanon, and Chad, in the threats to invade the Jamahiriyah and Nicaragua, in carring out provocative maneuvers, amassing fleets, plotting coups d'etat and assassinations of revolutionary leaderships in the world, deploying military bases and nuclear weapons, usurping the economic resources of the peoples, draining their culture, and destroying their identity.

13) Destroying the remnants of fascism and the regimes of tyranny and dictatorship is no longer a question of replacing an instrument of government with another, but is a part of an international Jamahiri movement which is advancing toward achieving complete control of Jamahiri political, economic, and military capabilities.

In affirming the rights of the masses to adopt the method of collective struggle to confront fascism and undermine its props, the conference highly evaluates the victories achieved by the masses in Africa, Asia and, South America by overthrowing the symbols of fascism and surrounding their dens. It announces its stand at the side of all liberation movements still facing regimes of oppression and the remnants of fascism.

14) The arms race, the deployment of nuclear missiles, the disfiguring of the environment, and U.S. domination of Western Europe has resulted in a stepping up of mass rejection and in the development of the peace movement and alternative movements. Therefore, the conference announces its total support for these movements so as to confirm their effectiveness and their ability to shape a new, modern role for the European nations. It calls for the withdrawal of the terrorist military fleets from the Mediterranean in order that it may become a lake of peace and security. [applause]

15) The UN, in its present state and in addition to being an organization for governments, is deprived of will through the existence of the concession of the veto which the United States has persisted in using since the establishment of the organization, against the causes and interests of the small nations. Therefore, the conference calls for the formation of a new international organization which embodies the will of the vanquished, small, peace- and justice-loving nations, an organization that can become a platform from which the cries of good and right can be raised and from which the voice of imperialist hegemony will then disappear forever. [applause] The conference calls for the abolition of the veto concession because it constitutes a hindrance to the resolutions of the small nations and it disregards their will and perpetuates imperialist hegemony.

16) While sensing the gravity of the stage through which the world liberation movement is passing in confronting the rising multidimensional onslaught of U.S. imperialism and of its allies which has reached such an extent that it is now using the method of direct military invasion of some states, as is the case in Grenada and Lebanon and in some African states bordering on the racist regime of South Africa, and in Chad, and as is happening now in the form of direct military threat by U.S. imperialism against the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the conference stresses that the method of confrontation against this imperialist, terrorist campaign requires these nations to move to collective struggle so that this will become a comprehensive method of struggle and a legal revolutionary basis which acquires international legality as a right of self-defense.

The conference has adopted the following resolutions:

i. The conference has decided to consider the speech of the international revolutionary, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, as a basis for the work of the Second Conference of the International Center. The members of the conference are committed to its implementation and they declare that he is the leader of the international revolution against imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction, and fascism.

ii. The establishment of a fighting international revolutionary force against imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction, and fascism [applause] is an embodiment of the principle of legitimate self-defense.

iii. An international front including the small peoples and nations, the revolutionary movements, political organizations, progressive regimes, and people's revolutions in the world will be set up to fight the world forces of arrogance and state hegemony. [applause]

iv. In order to face up to the comprehensive aggressive strategy in which roles are allocated between imperialism, Zionism, and fascist regimes and dictatorships, the conference decides to support the liberation movements and their legitimate struggle to affirm their cultural identity, and their right to recover their usurped lands and live in peace, away from colonial danger and nuclear terror.

v. Given that a common point of the objectives of struggle is necessary between members of the center, imposed by the nature of the current stage, it follows that the forces participating in the conference decide:

A. To organize intellectual encounters, seminars, and dialogues between them;
B. To issue periodicals, reports and information about members;
C. To exchange publications;

D. To organize common cultural camps; and
E. To organize political activities in international symposiums, revolutionary manifestations, freedom festivals, and festivals of solidarity, whenever necessary.

Property of Former Officials Confiscated

LD190809 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 19 Mar (JANA) — The Basic People's Congress at Boudrisah in Banghazi yesterday held an emergency meeting where it discussed the question of pursuing the symbols of the defunct regime and the confiscation of its property.

In this connection, the masses of the congress decided to confiscate the properties of Ramadan al-Kikhya and Mansur Rashid al-Kikhya, [latter was Libyan foreign minister in 1972-1973 and Libyan UN permanent representative in 1975] who have both absconded from the country, including farms and buildings which are located within the congress jurisdiction area.

The congress also decided to ask the Secretariat of Agriculture to carry out a survey on the land belonging to the two absconded persons and to hand these lands to the People's Congress to be used in the best manner for agricultural purposes. The masses of the congress also decided to bring to account all those connected to the two absconded persons.

MOROCCO

Crown Prince Returns From Visit to Saudi Arabia

LD182133 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Excerpt] His Royal Higness Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed returned to the country this afternoon following the official visit which he had paid to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia at the invitation of His Royal Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard.

SUDAN

Army Preparing To Recapture Rebel-Held Rumbek Town

JN160948 Khartoum SUNA in English 0925 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 16, (SUNA) — The Peoples Armed Forces are preparing to recapture Rumbek Town, Bahr al-Ghazal Region, which was lately captured by Colonel John Garang rebels, the Transitional Military Council (TMC) deputy chairman said.

General Taj al-Din also explained that Rumbek a provincial capital, which was evacuated following an intensive attack launched by the rebel forces, will be recaptured by the Armed Forces within the few upcoming days.

Taj al-Din, who was speaking to the daily *(AL-AYYAM)*, said that rebel forces were still deployed in several areas such as Gardod and Kurmuk along the Sudanese-Ethiopian borders, and Rumbek in the southern region.

Battalion Attacks Rebel Camps in Upper Nile

GF161826 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Al-Abyad, Sudan, 16 Mar (SUNA) — A battalion from the South Kordofan Forces recently attacked a number of camps for the outlaws in the Upper Nile Province and inflicted heavy losses in lives and equipment. The equipment included ammunition, explosives, bombs of various types, and Soviet-made arms.

The battalion, called Cambajadid, received a great popular welcome when it arrived today in Al-Abyad City, capital of North Kordofan. Among those who received it were Brigadier General A.H. Isma'il al-Mubarak, acting commander of the First Brigade, and commanders of the regular forces in the province. This battalion is based in Kaduqli, capital of South Kordofan and uses the city as a starting point for its operations. Its goal is to provide security for all areas of Kaduqli against the activities of the outlaws.

Upper Nile Official on Garang Plan, Elections

JN161608 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Mar (SUNA) — An official source revealed here today that John Garang was planning to recruit children under 15 years old in the (Al-Silk) area in the Upper Nile Region and dispatch them to Cuba to be trained in acts of sabotage and guerrilla warfare.

Colonel Simon Manang, deputy military governor of the Upper Nile region, said in a press statement today that Garang's plan failed and his ambitions foundered because of citizen awareness in the area and the vigilance of the Anya Nya II forces which monitored the children's steps, prevented them from crossing the border, severed their supply routes, and prevented food from getting to them.

Col Simon Manang asserted that security is established in the entire region except on its eastern border where citizens are still exposed to sinful repeated attacks and where their cattle is being plundered by the rebel forces of John Garang because the citizens refuse to join them.

In a statement to SUNA, his excellency added that the rebel forces of John Garang were defeated in the Upper Nile region thanks to the cooperation of the citizens, the Anya Nya II forces, and the Armed Forces in confronting the aggression.

On the possibility of holding elections in the Upper Nile Region, Col Manang said that preliminary measures to prepare for the balloting process are proceeding as scheduled, but the major obstacle which could prevent elections in the region is the fact that transportation is not available and there is a shortage of oil.

Jordanian Armed Forces Chief Arrives on Visit

JN181658 Khartoum SUNA in English 1640 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum March 18 (SUNA) — A high level Jordanian military delegation headed by the general commander of the Armed Forces of Jordan General Zaydi ibn Shakir arrived here today on a three day state visit to Sudan at the invitation of Transitional Military Council Chairman General Siwar al-Dhahab. The visit aims at reinforcing military cooperation between Sudan and Jordan in the fields of training and coordination between the two armed forces in the various fields said the Jordanian official in a statement following his arrival here. He elaborated that his visit to the Sudan comes within the context of the support Jordan is extending to Sudan in the different domains.

On the other hand the Jordanian official today handed a written message to Gen Siwar al-Dhahab from the crown prince of Jordan. The message has reviewed the efforts being carried out by Jordanian National Committee for Coordination with the Sudan in the official and popular fields and the armed forces in the two countries in particular.

Issues Statement on Gulf War

LD182154 Khartoum SUNA in English 1738 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum March 18 (SUNA) — There has to be an effective Arab presence to counter the Israeli aggression policies said the Jordanian Armed Forces General Commander General Zaydi ibn Shakir currently on a three day official visit to the country. He said in a statement to (SUNA) he would not drop the possibility of an Israeli aggression against any Arab country as far as Arab states would remain (?disunited). [sentence as received]

On the Iran-Iraq war the Jordanian official has pointed that his country firmly back Iraq "without any hesitation or reserve." He went on, however, to express his country's keenness to see an end to the 6-year old Gulf war for the good of the two Moslem countries. He furthermore called on all Arab states to back Iraqin its war against Iran "which did not want to resort to a dialogue solution for the problem."

PDRY Envoy Delivers Message to Foreign Minister

GF161931 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpt] PDRY charge d'affaires in Khartoum Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah al-Buqayri conveyed a verbal message from Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Political Bureau and foreign affairs minister, to Sudanese Foreign Affairs Minister Brother Ibrahim Taha Ayyub on bilateral relations and means to bolster and develop those relations.

This took place during the PDRY charge d'affaires' meeting with the Sudanese foreign affairs minister this morning. During the meeting, the PDRY official briefed the minister in detail on the futile coupist conspiracy of conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his clique and the serious dimensions of this conspiracy.

Siwar al-Dhahab Receives Saudi King's Message

GF161849 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Mar (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council, has received a written message from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia in reply to a message which he sent last week to his majesty. The message was delivered by 'Isa Mustafa, Sudanese ambassador to Saudi Arabia, during a meeting this morning. After the meeting, the ambassador said he conveyed to the general the wishes of his brother His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. During the meeting they also discussed issues relating to this season's pilgrimage.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Briefs Ministry on Housing, Urban Renewal

EA182324 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1900 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam has reminded the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and concerned comrades that a greater role is expected from them in implementing the recently decreed urban housing policy and the subsequent directive aimed at the housing problem which cannot be separated from our basic and social problems.

The Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee secretary general, Provisional Military Administrative Council chairman and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces said this today when briefed at the Housing and Urban Development Ministry on the implementation of the new housing and implementation decree and the development and progress of our towns underway by the ministry.

On arrival at the ministry conference hall, the comrade secretary general was briefed by Comrade Tesfaye Maru, WPE Central Committee member and housing and urban development minister and other comrades on the problems and causes of the housing problem in our country and the deteriorating situation of our towns and actions taken by the ministry since the inception of our revolution and development projects ready to implement the recent housing policy.

These briefings were supported with maps, charts and photographs.

Prior to this, Comrade Tekeste Adhirom, deputy general manager of the Addis Ababa town master plan project briefed Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam on maps and documents to be used as master plans.

Foreign Ministry Says Sudanese Talks Postponed

EA191124 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Talks between Sudanese rebels and groups supporting the country's military rulers have been postponed for the 2d time in 2 days.

An official of the Ethiopian Ministry for Foreign Affairs, which is hosting the talks in Addis Ababa, said that the talks have been postponed pending the arrival of key negotiators from both sides.

The pro-government group to the talks is made up of trade unions and political parties operating under the name of the National Front for Salvation.

UGANDA

AFP: NRA Captures Kitgum; Opponents in Disarray

AB190820 Paris AFP in English 0711 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Kampala, March 19 (AFP) — Troops of President Yoweri Museveni's National Resistance Army (NRA) Tuesday captured the northern town of Kitgum, meeting little resistance from forces of the ousted military government, Uganda radio announced Tuesday night. The radio, quoting a Defence Ministry spokesman, said government opponents had been thrown into disarray — an indication that the new Kampala government does not anticipate much fighting in future as the NRA moves to occupy the three remaining districts in the northwest of the country.

Kitgum is 80 km (50 miles) from Uganda's northern border with Sudan and its capture by the NRA now means that the government troops have only to establish their dominance in the town of Arua, provincial capital of West Nile Region.

President Museveni announced Sunday that his troops had captured the Pakwach Bridge linking West Nile with the rest of the East African country. The fall of Arua — the home town of ex-president Idi Amin — is now expected before the end of this month. The NRA took control of Kampala in late January after a nine-day battle with forces of the military administration. President Museveni established a government in the week following the fall of the capital.

TANZANIA

CCM, CPSU Sign Economic Cooperation Agreement

EA181944 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1000 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Dar es Salaam — The Chama Cha Mapinduzi, [CCM] and the CPSU have pledged their continued support for the liberation struggle in Southern Africa and efforts aimed at bringing about a new economic order in the world.

Speaking at a brief ceremony to mark the signing of a cooperation agreement between the CCM and the CPSU for the year 1986-87, Ambassador (Philimon Muro) said the CCM supports the Soviet proposal to stop nuclear tests immediately, in order to bring about peace in the world.

The Soviet ambassador in the country, Sergey Illarionov, said the Soviet Union supports the CCM's endeavors in the struggle for peace in the world, in line with an agreement signed in New Delhi, India, by the leaders of six countries which are fighting for peace in the world. Ambassador (Philimon Muro) signed the agreement on behalf of the CCM and Ambassador Illarionov signed on behalf of the CPSU. Under the agreement, the two parties will exchange delegations of experts on party economic and agricultural activities and the administration of mass organizations.

CHAD

Ambassador to France 'Fears Reaction From Libya'

LD191147 Paris Domestic Service in French
1000 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] The Chadian ambassador to Paris fears reaction from Libya after the sharp setback and high losses suffered on Monday by the GUNT [Transitional Government of National Unity], the armed opposition to President Hissein Habre, about 100 km from Faya-Largeau. As reported earlier, during a serious skirmish with GUNT forces, the Chadian Army took 186 prisoners, including 5 Libyans, and, at the same time, seized military equipment. The fighting itself resulted in 235 victims, including 18 Libyans, from the GUNT forces. The Chadian ambassador to Paris indicated this morning that Libyan planes have been flying over Chadian Army positions since yesterday but the Ndjamena government remains prepared for any initiative and any meeting for peace.

Libyans Repair Bombed Rebel-Held Airstrip

AU181849 Paris AFP in English 1829 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Paris. March 18 (AFP) — The airstrip in rebel-held northern Chad, bombed by French warplanes on February 16 has been repaired by the rebels' Libyan allies, the weekly *LE CANARD ENCHAINE*reported here Tuesday, quoting an official report.

The French Defence Ministry declined to comment, but experts said the 4,000 metre (yard) strip at Wadi Dum had not been used since it was destroyed by French Jaguar fighter-bombers on behalf of the Njdamena government.

The usually well-informed *LE CANARD ENCHAINE* said the airstrip had been repaired in only a few days, using material left by the East German construction teams that had originally laid it a few months earlier. Experts said the destruction caused by the French bombs was so great that simple repair work would not be enough to allow warplanes to take off safely.

FANT Reports Results of 17 Mar Chicha Fighting

AB181941 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 18 Mar 86

["Communique" issued by the High Command of the Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT) on 18 March in Ndjamena — read by second-in-command Major Galiban Dantato]

[Text] Yesterday, 17 March 1986, we announced the total destruction of the command post of the Islamic Legion at Chicha. The final balance-sheet of this brilliant FANT victory over the Libyan annexationist army is as follows:

On the friendly side: One soldier slightly wounded; friendly equipment destroyed — one jeep, one Landrover and one Toyota.

On the enemy side: human loses — 235 dead, among whom were white Libyans. War prisoners — 186, among whom were 19 white Libyans.

Enemy equipment captured: two Toyota vehicles equipped with 14.5-mm guns; three Toyota vehicles equipped with surface-to-surface rockets; one Landrover equipped with radio; and six Toyota troop transporters.

Enemy equipment destroyed: three Cascavel AMLS, two Toyota vehicles equipped with surface-to-surface rockets, three jeeps equipped with 106-mm guns, two Mercedes watertank trucks, and two Mercedes trucks for transporting troops. The command post of the Islamic Legion at Chicha has been completely destroyed.

ZAIRE

Released UNITA Hostages Not To Leave for 2 Days

AB181736 Paris AFP in French 1452 GMT 18 Mar 86

[By AFP special correspondent Bernard Apfeldorfer]

[Text] Kinshasa, 18 Mar (AFP) — The hostages captured by UNITA (the armed opposition group to the Luanda regime) on 1 March in the diamond-producing town of Andrada (northeastern Angola) cannot be dispatched from Kapanga (southwest Zaire) where they have been set free, to Kinshasa "before at least 2 days' time," and official of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) told AFP on Tuesday.

"At present, we have a logistic problem to solve before we can repatriate them," this Red Cross official stated in Kinshasa, specifying that a small aircraft left for Kapanga in Shaba [Province] this morning with 800 kg of food, adding "there was no major sanitary or medical problem."

The Red Cross team in Kinshasa is waiting for a specific report on the situation in order to be able to react efficiently. "We still do not know the type of aircraft that can land on the Kapanga landing strip, which is made of earth," it was said at the ICRC. Once we have this information we will decide whether to send a Hercules C-130 aircraft with the capacity of 100 passangers to make two round trips to Kinshasa, or to send a DC-3 aircraft (20 places) to make several shuttles to Kananga (Kasai Occidental, about 300 km to the north of Kapanga), where a heavy-duty transport plane will be waiting. "We do not want to attempt to transport these people by truck during this rainy season; it will be too long and too tiresome," the ICRC official added.

The ICRC in Kinshasa, while awaiting the supplementary information, puts at 196 the number of people recovered: 93 Portuguese, 91 Filipinos, 4 Britons, 2 West Germans, 2 Romanians, 1 Canadian, 1 Cape Verdian, and 2 other persons who could be Angolans.

It will be recalled that UNITA attacked the small diamond-producing town of Andrada on 1 March and captured nearly 200 foreigners who it wanted to send to its headquarters at Jamba (southeast Angola), a distance of about 2,000 km.

The ICRC official in Kinshasa explained that the International Red Cross had been contacted by UNITA on Thursday [13 March 1986] when it was handing over two Brazilian missionaries and two Portuguese nationals to the humanitarian organization. "UNITA than asked us to contact Zairian authorities if they would like the hostages to be released on their territory. Zaire made no objection to this and immediately granted all the hostages transit right," he added. "The technical assistants were then spread about near the border," he continued, adding that the ICRC first had to bring them together at the nearest Zairian town, Kapanga. This it did as early as Saturday. A doctor from the Red Cross was then dispatched to the site to help the two doctors from the Methodist mission in the area, the same source disclosed.

Hostages To Fly to Portugal

LD171829 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1800 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] A Portuguese Foreign Ministry spokesman has told the NOTICIAS DE PORTUGAL News Agency that the Portuguese plane that will be sent to Kinshasa to repatriate the Portuguese hostages released by UNITA will also be bringing the other released hostages to Lisbon.

The spokesman, Ambassador Brito e Cunha, said that the hostages are, at the moment, in the care of the Red Cross and should arrive in Lisbon next weekend.

Amnesty International Cites Human Rights Violations

AU181700 Paris AFP in English 1655 GMT 18 Mar 86

[By Denis Hiault]

[Text] London, March 19 (AFP) — The government of Zaire and its Armed Forces are guilty of serious violations of human rights, including the torture of political opponents and atrocities against civilians, Amnesty International said in a report published here Wednesday.

The report, the latest of the Nobel prize-winning human rights organisation's frequent condemnations of Zaire, concentrated on action by the authorities against the banned Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS), and by the Armed Forces in Shaba province in the wake of a brief revolt at the end of 1984.

Amnesty said that more than 100 members and sympathizers of the UDPS were picked up in mass arrests in Kinshasa and the eastern Kasai region between mid-October and December 1985.

It quoted witnesses saying that a number had been tortured, and deprived of food and drink for long periods. One detainee, Kana Kange, died of a beating in a Kinshasa prison cell, Amnesty said, adding that reports of the deaths of four other prisoners were unconfirmed.

The report said most of the UDPS supporters arrested were still being held, but two of the organisation's leaders, former members of parliament Ishisekedi wa Mulumba and Kanana Tshiongo, were freed at the end of February, despite having been jailed for 18 months in January for insulting head of state Mobutu Sese Seko. It was the arrest of the two former MP's which sparked off the wave of other detentions, Amnesty said.

The report added that in Shaba the Armed Forces had arrested many people in their homes, and in some cases in hospital, in a crack-down in the town of Moba and surrounding villages after recapturing the area from armed opposition groups. Amnesty was unable to give the number of those arrested, some of whom it said had been executed without trial.

Former detainees had described how they were whipped with barbed wire, subjected to electric shocks and cigarette burns, and deprived of food and drink, Amnesty said.

The organization called on the Zairean authorities, which had always denied its earlier allegations of human rights abuses, to set up an independent inquiry into continuing reports of ill-treatment, torture and killing of prisoners, and to take practical steps to enforce the ban on torture already written into the Constitution.

BURKINA FASO

President Sankara Receives CEAO Secretary General

AB181529 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Statement by Drissa Keita, secretary general of the West African Economic Community (CEAO), after meeting Burkina Faso head of state President Thomas Sankara on 18 March in Ouagadougou — recorded]

[Text][Begin Keita recording] I would like to thank the president of Burkina Faso who readily received me for some time in spite of his very busy schedule. Our talks were very cordial, very friendly, and very fraternal. I would like to thank him for the kind words he uttered at the reception.

We reviewed matters related to the organization of the summit, and I believe that each of us will leave no stone unturned so that the summit will be held in a good atmosphere, because it is going to be the first summit held at the headquarters of the West African Economic Community.

The president told me that he was at our disposal. We could get in touch with him any time during the meetings in order to solve any possible problems that may crop up. I hope there will be none. Once again, I would like to thank the president for granting me an audience. [end recording]

CDR Secretary General in Libya for Conference

AB181628 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Captain Pierre Ouedraogo, the national secretary general of the Committee for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR], is in Libya since Friday [14 March] where he is taking part as the head of an important delegation from our country at the second international conference on resistance to imperialism, Zionism, racism, reactionary attitudes and fascism. Captain Pierre Ouedraogo delivered a message from the president of Burkina Faso to the leader of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

GHANA

Shipload of Dissidents' Weapons Seized in Brazil

AB181340 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Documents seized by police from a boat off the coast of Brazil show that 6 tons of arms and ammunition on the boat were destined for Ghana. The ship broke down near Rio de Janeiro, and its secret cargo was discovered after the crew came ashore. Ten Argentines and eight Americans have been detained. Reports say the Argentine police believe that the arms are rather destined for antigovernment rebels in Nicaragua.

It is recalled that last year, J.H. Mensah, a known dissident, was arrested in the United States along with two other Ghanaians. He appeared in court, charged with buying arms illegally to destabilize Ghana's revolution.

Additional Details Available

Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 MAR 86

[Text] Another plot by dissidents to destabilize Ghana has been uncovered. This time in Brazil where a ship carrying an illegal cargo of 6 tons of ammunition and military equipment has been intercepted. The ship, *Nabicotor*, with Panamanian registration and illegally flying a Ghanaian flag, was arrested in Brazilian waters.

Nabicotor, with its crew of 18, made up of 10 Argentinians and 8 U.S. citizens suspected to be mercenaries and veterans from the Vietnam war, sailed from Argentina. The ammunition and military equipment were purchased by a group of Ghanaian dissidents led by one Godfried Osei working in close collaboration with certain foreign intelligence agencies and powers.

Acting on prior information about the ship made available to it in Accra, the government instructed Ghana's ambassador to Brazil, Professor Kofi Awoonor, to alert the Brazilian authorities. This was accordingly done when the ship sailed into Brazilian waters from Buenos Aires and led to the arrest of the ship and its crew. According to reports, Godfried Osei has been very active in New York and other U.S. cities indulging in clandestine activities aimed at destabilizing the government. Osei, 40, was the managing director of Africa Steel (?Boats) Limited and employed as technical director and a British citizen called Anthony (Strigue). [sentence as heard] Osei was arrested in February 1983 for his involvement in a coup plot with Dr Antwi who, it will be recalled, was operating together with an Afro-American lady said to be his wife and who escaped arrest in a U.S. Embassy car No. CD 215 after the discovery of the plot. Not much is known about the present whereabouts of Dr Antwi who was a prominent Catholic youth leader in Ghana. Godfried Osei and the others involved in the plot escaped from prison during the June 19th coup attempt.

This morning, the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, called the Brazilian ambassador to Ghana and requested the full cooperation of the Brazilian Government in the investigations into this case.

Cultural Exchange Agreement Signed With USSR

AB180910 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The governments of Ghana and the Soviet Union have signed in Accra a new cultural exchange agreement for 1986-1987. It includes cooperation in book production, cinema, radio, and television. Emphasis will be placed on familiarization tours and the transfer of knowledge through study tours and workshops. There is also provision for scholarships, as well as exchange of personnel in the fields of science and education. The agreement also provides for stronger sporting ties between the two countries. The secretary for culture and tourism, Dr Mohamed Ben Abdallah, and the Soviet ambassador to Ghana, Mr V.M. Semenov, signed it.

The secretary stressed his ministry's determination to ensure that more people receive greater and deeper knowledge of the achievements and norms of the cultures of the two countries. He expressed the hope that in carrying out the program, Ghana and the Soviet Union would be able to demonstrate to the world the type of relationship which promotes mutual understanding and world peace.

On his part, Mr Semenov said the exchange of such a program promotes understanding and international peace. He commended the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] for continuing the cordial relationship that the late Dr Kwame Nkrumah started in 1958.

LIBERIA

Monrovia Schools Close 'Effective Immediately'

AB181752 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The Government of Liberia has announced that effective immediately all schools within the Monrovia Consolidated Schools System, MCSS, are hereby closed for the Easter break. The decision to close these schools at this time is necessary in order to allow the government sufficient time to fully address problems affecting the teachers within the system.

Meanwhile, the government is appealing to all parents and guardians of students attending any of the MCSS schools to ensure that the children remain at home during this break as it is the government's responsibility to maintain law and order and protect life and property.

While the government is endeavoring to address the situation, it is also expected that parents and guardians will advise their children to refrain from disorderly conduct, such as disrupting classes at other schools and damaging property in city. The Government of Liberia is aware that the present economic problem is a national issue which needs the understanding and sympathy of all of our citizens.

The closure of the MCSS schools by the government comes in the wake of a massive student demonstration in the city of Monrovia today in support of teachers who have been boycotting classes in demand of the salary arrears. Reacting to the situation in an interview with BBC today, Justice Minister Jenkins Scott, [words indistinct] the students [words indistinct] and disrupted the flow of traffic and commerical activities. Minister Scott said this happened when the students overpowered the police forcing his ministry to request assistance from the military. He said the soldiers, who came to help the police, used whips to quell the situation.

Meanwhile, all MCSS school principals are kindly requested to report to the MCSS central office to receive December of last year's salary checks of MCSS teachers and other employees for (?disbursement).

Students Attack Schools

AB181325 Paris AFP in English 1241 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Monrovia, March 18 (AFP) — Thousands of public school students backing a pay strike by their teachers rampaged through private institutions in the capital Tuesday, smashing windows and halting classes, eyewitnesses said.

The students, roaming the streets in gangs, went from one school to another, hurling stones and forcing their private school counterparts out of the buildings. Many carried placards in support of the striking teachers and hostile to the private system, among them "no public schools, no private schools" and "we want equal education for all."

The students, whose demonstration snarled traffic along major thoroughfares, began their protest early in the morning by marching on the campus of the United Methodist School, attended by the children of President Doe. The strike by 1,000 public school teachers, launched last Friday, centered on their demands to receive their December and January salaries along with a transportation allowance. They also demanded restoration of a 25 percent pay cut imposed last December on all government employees.

President Doe, addressing teachers at a meeting Sunday, said he would personally intervene to find "lasting solutions" to their problems and urged them to return to work. But the teachers ignored the president's appeal, pledging to remain out of the classroom until their demands were met.

NIGERIA

Political Bureau Issues Political Debate Warning

AB182157 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Excerpt] A delegation of the Political Bureau here in Lagos state today addressed organized associations in the state. The delegation seized the opportunity to issue fresh warnings on the political dialogue. Kelly Ilashe, who was there, now reports:

[Begin Ilashe recording] The leader of the delegation, Professor Ahmadu Yahaya, warned that only professional associations would be permitted to organize political debates at approved centers. He said that individuals or influencial persons could not hold such debates in their private residences. Such debates were not restricted to one particular language but could be conducted in any language understood by the large section of the community.

Professor Yahaya said that the Bureau will not entertain indecent language on the debate and warned that such occasions should not be used to organize political activities which remain banned. [end recording]

Ebitu Ukiwe, Delegation Return From Palme Funeral

AB181220 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The Nigerian delegation to the funeral of the late Swedish prime minister, Mr Olof Palme, returned to Lagos yesterday. The delegation was led by the chief of General Staff, Commander Ebitu Ukiwe.

SENEGAL

President Abdou Diouf Pays 4-Day Visit To FRG

For Hamburg DPA coverage of the visit to the FRG by President Abdou Diouf, including his talks with Chancellor Helmut Kohl and President Richard von Weizsaecker, see the Federal Republic of Germany section of the 19 March *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

ANGOLA

Savimbi: UNITA Pressuring for Talks With MPLA

MB140818 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 14 Mar (KUP) — Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi has declared that one of the aspects of the UNITA political program is to exert pressure on the MPLA to hold talks.

Speaking to thousands of militants and combatants under drizzling rain on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the founding of the movement, Dr Savimbi stressed that the Angolans aspire to social justice which has been denied to them.

The UNITA leader reminded the local political leaders of the need to assess the problems faced by the people in order to better solve them.

Earlier, the UNITA president hailed some of the founding members of UNITA for their courage, resolve, and unity, which ensured the fall of Portuguese colonialism.

Defense Ministry Spokesman on Hostage Incident

MB191512 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] After the surprise attack on Andrada, in Lunda Norte province, the FAPLA forces pursuing the bandits carried out two ambushes which permitted our forces to determine their position, near Luia, on the banks of the Cassai River. The bandits were hiding here without any chances of escape.

Due to the increase of FAPLA forces, with the objective of recovering the hostages, the enemy was forced to cross Cassai River, which forms a border between the People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of Zaire. The bandits took refuge in this neighboring country, and they took with them the foreign guest workers who were abducted from Andrada.

This was revealed to ANGOP by a Ministry of Defense spokesman yesterday.

This statement refutes the news which was circulated by a number of international agencies, according to whom the bandits had managed to elude the FAPLA forces.

The Ministry of Defense spokesman also said that the Angolan troops had not continued the pursuit into Zaire because of Angola's respect for the sovereignty of that neighboring country, with which Angola has signed a number of security accords.

Asked about what the Ministry of Defense thought of the hostages' future and the reasons for the enemy to seek refuge in Zaire, the spokesman of the Ministry of Defense declared that he found it strange that the Zairian authorities had not immediately contacted the Angolan Government on the incident.

He added that it is up to the Zairian authorities to return the hostages, as well as their abductors — who are no more than a group of criminals — to the Angolan authorities. These criminals have caused the death of a number of people and destroyed as well as stolen goods [words indistinct].

Asked whether other bandit actions from Zairian territory might be repeated, the spokesman said that in fact he thought it possible that the bandits of so-called UNITA might repeat these actions from the same point of departure. He expressed concern over this situation because, in addition to the already existing problems in southern Angola due to constant and systematic attacks from the South African army and its puppets, the UNITA bandits, the FAPLA forces will be forced to take measures in regard to the border with the Republic of Zaire.

Meanwhile, a representative of the Red Cross in Angola has confirmed that this organization was contacted for the handing over of the hostages [words indistinct].

Miguel Gaspar Neto, Angolan ambassador to the Republic of Zaire, was received in audience by Mokolo wa Mpombo, the Zairian state commissioner for foreign affairs.

According to our diplomatic representation in Kinshasa, the Angolan diplomat and the Zairian Govereemnt official discussed issues related to the latest events in the People's Republic of Angola, as wwell as bilateral cooperation. Issues of security and bilateral interest were also discussed during the audience.

Foreign Minister Departs for Palme Funeral 14 Mar

MB140653 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Angolan Minister of Foreign Affairs Afonso van Dunem Mbinda left Luanda yesterday to attend the funeral of the former Swedish prime minister, Olof Palme, in Stockholm tomorrow. The Angolan minister heads an important delegation [passage indistinct]

UNITA Officer: Cuban General To Command Offensive

MB190619 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] UNITA's chief of staff, intelligence, Brigadier Huambo Casito, says a new Cuban general, General Ramires, has arrived in Kuando Kubango Province in Angola to command the Cuban and Soviet-backed offensive against UNITA expected to begin in the next few weeks.

Interviewed by the SABC in Johannesburg, Brigadier Casito said Angolan Government forces have been strengthened by Soviet MIG-23 fighter aircraft and Sukhoi-22 bombers. He said that it would be difficult for UNITA to repulse the offensive without American military aid. Brigadier Casito is a member of a 3-man delegation which is in South Africa to address students at the universities of the Witwatersrand, Natal, and Cape Town.

MAURITIUS

Ruling Party Elects Executive Committee
AB181250 Paris AFP in French 0852 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Port Louis, 18 Mar (AFP) — Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth's Mauritius Socialist Movement (MSM), at a meeting of the Central Committee of the movement, last Saturday elected a 15-member executive committee, 3 days before the Tuesday reconvening of Parliament which has been in recess for 2 months.

Furthermore, parliamentarians of the major opposition party, Mauritian Militant Movement (MMM), will boycott (Tuesday) the first session of the year of the Legislative Assembly, Paul Berenger, leader of the MMM whose party convened its supporters Sunday in the capital Port Louis, announced.

Mr Berenger also hinted that his parliamentarians will undertake an action Tuesday, the nature of which was not specified, in order to protest the prolonged suspension of five leading parliamentarians of the party and against what he terms a highly warm reception given by the government to the three parliamentarians who were acquitted and released by Dutch authorities after their arrest in Amsterdam.

Opposition MP's Stage Demonstration in Parliament
AB181633 Paris AFP in French 1501 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Port-Louis, 18 Mar (AFP) — Resumption of parliamentary meetings on Tuesday was marked by a quiet demonstration by members of Parliament [MP] belonging to the Mauritanian Militant Movement (MMM) who were protesting against the suspension of opposition leader Paul Berenger and four MMM parliamentarians.

The opposition MP's wore a symbolic black gag to protest against the rejection of parliamentary debates by the assembly speaker whose resignation they also demanded. Police used teargas as the parliamentarians left the premises of the Parliament, to disperse the crowds which chanted slogans in favor of the opposition. In the general stampede, some protesting MP's were hit but no one was injured. Parliamentary debates were held noramlly despite the absence of MMM parliamentarians and those of the Socialist Workers Front (FTS), now an opposition party. Labor Party MP's did not participate in the protest by the MMM. Calm returned shortly after the incident. The Assembly will meet on next Tuesday. The MMM and the FTS have announced that their MP's will take their seats again on Tuesday.

MOZAMBIQUE

Rebels Claim 194 Government Troops Killed at Moanza
HK190344 Hong Kong AFP in English 0308 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Lisbon, March 19 (AFP) — Mozambique's South African-backed rebels claimed here Tuesday their forces had killed 194 government troops, including 71 Zimbabwean soldiers fighting alongside them, when they recaptured the railway town of Moanza, in the central province of Sofala.

The rebels said they had lost the town, 100 kms (60 miles) north of the country's main port, Beira, last August to Zimbabwean troops.

In the latest attack, the rebels said they had also destroyed a train with military supplies for government troops in Moanza.

(In Rome, the Vatican Press said Tuesday that two female missionaries — one Italian, the other Portuguese — were kidnapped last week in the Nampula Province village of Cava during fighting between government troops and rebels.

(An Italian woman missionary was killed in January last year on the road between Nampala and Nacala. Last November, another Italian missionary, Luigia Amalia Bottasso, was kidnapped by rebels in northern Mozambique and is still apparently being held).

Machel Receives New British Ambassador
MB111900 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] President Samora Machel has said the situation of tension in southern Africa does not show any signs of dissipating. The Mozambican leader was speaking today in Maputo when he received the credentials of the new British ambassador to Maputo, James Allan. President Machel said violence in the region has increased in intensity and threats by the Pretoria regime against neighboring states persist.

The new British ambassador said Britain appreciated Mozambique's efforts in the search for peace in southern Africa.

Stops in Angola Going to Sweden
MB151252 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] President Samora Machel of Mozambique stopped over a few hours in Luanda last night on his way to Stockholm where he will attend the funeral of the late Swedish prime minister, Olof Palme. In Luanda, President Samora Machel held a brief meeting with Angolan head of state Jose Eduardo dos Santos and discussed issues of common interest to the respective countries. Samora Machel was one of the heads of state who have sent messages of condolences to the Swedish authorities, (?describing) Prime Minister Olof Palme as a great fighter for the cause of peace.

The Angolan Government will be represented at the funeral of Olof Palme by a delegation led by Minister of External Relations Afonso van Dunem who is already in Stockholm. Afonso van Dunem is carrying a message from the Angolan head of state to UN Secretary General Dr Perez de Cuellar on the situation in Southern Africa, which is characterized by imperialist aggressiveness, particularly against the People's Republic of Angola. Dr Perez de Cuellar is also in Stockholm to attend the funeral of the late Swedish prime minister, during which he is scheduled to deliver a speech.

Meets Portugal's Soares in Sweden

MB171207 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Portugal's President Mario Soares had reaffirmed his government's desire not to permit the representatives of armed bandits to continue with their activities in that country. Mario Soares said this at a meeting with President Samora Machel in Stockholm, Sweden, during which they discussed issues which hinder close relationships between Mozambique and Portugal. President Samora Machel returned to Maputo yesterday after attending the funeral ceremony of the late Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme who was assassinated on 28th February. In Stockholm, Samora Machel also held meetings with Daniel Ortega, the president of Nicaragua, and Bernardo Vieira, the president of Guinea Bissau. On his return home, President Samora Machel made a stopover in Luanda where he held talks with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos on the latest developments in southern Africa.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Claims 120 'Racist' Troops Killed Jan/Feb

EA181154 Dar es Salaam Voice of Namibia in English 1830 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] In our program tonight we feature a war communique detailing the activities of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia [PLAN], SWAPO's military wing during the months of January and February 1986.

The war for national liberation in Namibia is being fought with great intensity. Its scope has assumed advanced dimensions. The heroic men and women combatants of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, PLAN, are giving the enemy [as heard] of illegal occupation in Namibia heavy military blows. Effectiveness of the armed liberation struggle on economic [word indistinct] programs for the racist regime of South Africa based in Namibia [words indistinct]. The (?appalling) loss of human life is adversely affecting the racist army of genocidal atrocities. Desertion and demoralization among the enemy forces is very high. Many enemy soldiers have deserted the army. Others are refusing to go on patrol or to engage PLAN combatants. There is also increasing rebellion and mutiny among the enemy forces. Several soldiers, for example Sergeant Fredrick Thomas Sikonko, Ernest Katilulu, Pedros Kabonde, Longhilos Angula, Paulus Johannes, and Chimbanda Ofifo to mention but a few, have been arrested for refusing to fight against SWAPO.

While the enemy's military in disarray, PLAN combatants have been scoring victories on the battlefield, as the combatants are effectively putting into action the 1986 clarion call as declared by SWAPO as the year of general mobilization and decisive action for final victory.

During the months of January and February 1986, PLAN combatants killed about 120 racist South African soldiers and wounded many others. Twenty military trucks and vehicles, 10 telephone poles, and 9 electricity pylons were destroyed while large quantities of arms, ammunition, and other war material were captured.

Commentary on South African 'Nazi Brutality'

EA191112 Dar es Salaam Voice of Namibia in English 1830 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Station commentary: "Spotlight on Namibia"]

[Text] Mass tortures and brutal atrocities are reported in all parts of the country and all active members of SWAPO are today silenced in colonial dungeons as the established institution feels threatened in its comfortable [word indistinct]. The racist regime of Pretoria is applying a Nazi type of brutality against the Namibian people's (?precious) struggle going on in the country.

It can be noticed that since the beginning of this year, the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, PLAN, has tremendously intensified its regular armed offensives against the occupying forces of monster Botha and his henchmen around him in Pretoria. It is imperative to note that since the beginning of this year, uncountable racist soldiers, who are being used against their wishes, have perished in clashes with the people's army. These consecutive successes by the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, PLAN, has baffled the white settlers in Namibia to the extent whereby many have lost confidence in the ability of the Pretoria administration to give them protection in such a war situation in which the country is drifting.

The reports reaching the Voice of Namibia say that racist South Africa has over the last few weeks embarked on a reinforcement of its large [word indistinct] army of occupation in Namibia in preparation for what the fascist regime of Pretoria described as a military so-called discipline against SWAPO combatants inside the country. But what haunts and scares Botha's administration at this moment is (?mostly) the support and solid cooperation SWAPO is accumulating among the vast masses of our country. PLAN's combatants are scattered all over Namibia and are enjoying support among the people in carrying out the sacred mission of liberation. They are welcomed and applauded by workers and peasants from all corners of Namibia.

On the political level, the political situation in Namibia today has deteriorated. This is because the fascist boer regime has failed to stamp out the liberation struggle in Namibia waged by SWAPO. The regime has resorted to the most outrageous brutality. Innocent people are being killed daily by the South African bandits who are the so-called security forces. Whoever is found to be a member of SWAPO, supporter or just a sympathiser is immediately killed or tortured to death. In fact, the killing of innocent Namibian patriots has become routine work of the South African occupationist troops in our country.

As to SWAPO's position vis-a-vis Western imperialist maneuvers aimed at finding a no-corner [as heard] solution to Namibia's independence issue, SWAPO and the embattled people of Namibia are convinced that any solution to Namibia's independence issue that does not conform with the United Nations decolonization plan on Namibia will be totally rejected by SWAPO and the people of Namibia as a whole.

The people of Namibia have been fighting with guns in their hands and shed their precious blood. Therefore, the question for them to accept those imperialist maneuvers is absolutely out. As far as the war situation is concerned in Namibia, this war for liberation is almost felt by everybody, not only in Namibia as such but even in South Africa itself because most of the young boer boys who are being killed by SWAPO combatants are from South Africa, drawn mostly from poor families, whilst the sons of Botha-Malan are studying at the most expensive institutions in South Africa itself and abroad. Because of the war situation prevailing in Namibia today, hundreds of boer settlers have abandoned their farms to rush to safety in towns.

Even settlers in towns, cities, are questioning the illegal administration: When will the infamous surgical operation against the so-called terrorists be accomplished? The struggle being waged by the embattled people of Namibia is tough and must be carried out to its logical conclusion. Therefore, there is no force in the world that can destroy the people's will towards genuine and desired independence. The struggle must not only be continued but be escalated. Everything for the struggle and all to final victory!

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha Reportedly To Meet Wisner in Frankfurt

MB181522 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1521 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 18, SAPA — The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, is scheduled to meet the deputy secretary of state, Mr Frank Wisner, in Frankfurt for a second round of talks on southern Africa tomorrow.

This was confirmed by a spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs today who would say no more.

However, it is understood that Mr Wisner's follow-up on South Africa's offer to implement UN Security Council Resolution 435 by August 1, has brought responses from neighbouring Frontline States which necessitated further talks with Mr Botha before Mr Wisner returns to Washington.

Mr Botha left Cape Town yesterday and is expected back before the weekend.

Mr Wisner has talked to the governments of southern African states and Portugal following an offer by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, to implement the UN R435 independence plan for SWA/Namibia by August 1, provided agreement could be reached on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

Although it is not clear to diplomatic sources here what prospects there are of the offer being taken up, it is generally felt that it has broken the impasse of recent months and will force a response form the Angolan Government.

The reception of the offer in direct negotiations will probably not be revealed until after Mr Wisner has reported to the Reagan administration, sources say.

Buthelezi, Heunis, Cadman Discuss Natal Plan

MB140909 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 9 Mar 86

[Interviews with Administrator of Natal Mr Radcliffe Cadman, KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Heunis in Cape Town on 11 March by John Bishop on the "Network" program — video recorded]

[Text] [John Bishop] Earlier today the KwaZulu chief minister, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and the administrator of Natal, Mr Radcliffe Cadman, met the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, in Cape Town amid speculation of a Natal option for power-sharing between Zulus, whites, Indians, and coloreds. The Natal Executive Committee and the KwaZulu Cabinet had proposed to the government that a KwaZulu-Natal joint executive authority should be established. Well, soon after the meeting this afternoon we linked up to Cape Town, and I first spoke to Mr Cadman.

[Begin video] [Bishop] Mr Cadman, you proposed a joint executive authority for KwaZulu-Natal. Exactly what does this entail?

[Cadman] It is designed to bring about formal cooperation in a constitutional way between two administrations whose interests overlap in Natal: my own, the Natal Provincial Administration, and that of KwaZulu.

[Bishop] Let us pursue that a little. Executive authority, you say. What would that entail?

[Cadman] It entails a formalized forum in which the executive officers of my administration and those of KwaZulu can meet, discuss problems, come to an agreed decision, which will be created.

[Bishop] What about legislative powers? Would you have those?

[Cadman] No, the legislative powers in terms of the agreement rest with the two separate authorities as they exist at the present time.

[Bishop] Mr Cadman, what is the thinking behind this proposal? Are you bringing the Zulu people and the white people closer together in a working relationship? Is that the idea?

[Cadman] Yes. It has grown out of our daily experience. You know there is little that we do on our side, that is the Natal Provincial Administration, which does not affect the lives of the people under the jurisdiction of KwaZulu and vice versa, and it is from informal cooperation which already exists out of necessity that the discussions have arisen and they have been undergone in order to try and formalize what is already in some fields an informal relationship already existing.

[Bishop] Now although the state president has said apartheid is outmoded at the moment as policy stands, this seems to cut across separate homeland policies, does it not?

[Cadman] I don't think so. There is nothing, as I understand it, to stop any administration, provincial or otherwise, from combining with another administration if it means for more efficient government and cheaper government, and that is what we are trying to do.

[Bishop] Where would the Indian and colored people feature in this?

[Cadman] The Indian and colored people would be accommodated in the sense that the provincial administration is in charge of general affairs. We are an extension of the notion of general affairs as embodied in the state president and the cabinet. They are already involved in the tricameral Parliament, and so they are accommodated in that respect.

[Bishop] Should this be accepted, this new executive structure, would the provincial assembly fall away? What would happen?

[Cadman] It is unrelated to the provincial assembly because it is at the executive level, and whether the provincial assembly as it presently exists is to continue or whether it is to disappear there will still be in the new dispensation a provincial executive and administrator and a provincial administration. So it is unaffected by that.

[Bishop] You see why I asked that question — kites are being flown — you might have read in the press and elsewhere that this could be a model for South Africa, a multiracial sort of small parliament of people down there in Natal, or whatever you might call it in the future, showing the way.

[Cadman] Well, some people may regard it in that light. I am, perhaps, a more phlegmatic person; I see it as useful cooperation to bring about efficiency and to bring about more economic government between two administrations.

[Bishop] Mr Cadman, in general, how were you received by the minister this morning?

[Cadman] You will appreciate that the minister has to assess our proposals and make a recommendation to cabinet, but the impression that I was left with was that the meeting was cordial and I thought it was a very satisfactory one.

[Bishop] Have you any idea of white reaction to these proposals inside Natal?

[Cadman] I would say that...[changes thought] Well my experience is that white reaction favors them.

[Bishop] Thank you very much. [end video]

[Bishop] And so from Mr Cadman to the views of Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

[Begin video][Bishop] Chief Minister, you have had your meeting with Mr Heunis, are you happy with the result?

[Buthelezi] Both Dr Dhlomo and myself are extremely happy because we think it couldn't have gone better, Mr Bishop, and I thought that also on the part of the administrator and Mr Martin that they were equally happy with the way it went.

[Bishop] Can we just go over the tracks a little bit. You were seeking executive authority for combined, shall we say, judgments vis-a-vis KwaZulu and Natal. Now is that all you were seeking? Were you seeking legislative power of any kind?

[Buthelezi] No, I think that this thing we are doing in phases. We think the first stage is to rationalize our authority because we believe there is a lot of duplication that takes place. For example, you would be surprised that vis-a-vis the hospitals, if we bought our drugs for, our pharmaceuticals, you know, together, we would save something up to 2 to 4 million rand so that we seek, therefore, joint executive authority to start with. The question of legislative power is going to be the subject of the indaba that is going to be held on 3 April.

[Bishop] Yes, let's hear more about that indaba. That will be the main thrust — will it be legislative power?

[Buthelezi] Yes. We will be seeking legislative power. That is why, in fact, it could not be an issue that could be decided just by the KwaZulu Government and the provincial administration. That is why we have invited all the interest groups because it involves everyone. That is why we have a long list of political parties and other organizations that we feel should participate and make a decision joint with us. And where we will have an equal vote for everyone, even if KwaZulu is big, we have only one person who is going to attend and try to advise us for each and every one. We hope that we will reach decisions by consensus.

[Bishop] Right. Now some high-flying names won't be there. AZAPO [Azanian People's Organization], UDF [United Democratic Front], the ANC — I don't think they are going to come, are they?

[Buthelezi] Well, when we set up the Buthelezi commission we invited the ruling party, the National Party [NP], and we invited also the external mission of the ANC, but they didn't participate. But we didn't stop because they didn't participate because we believe that a solution for this country must always be found on the basis that everyone participates. But then if we give people a chance to participate, and they don't participate in their indaba actually it is not our business.

[Bishop] Now I think you are aware that there has been speculation that you are seeking a sort of example for South Africa.

[Buthelezi] It is absolutely true.

[Bishop] Is that right?

[Buthelezi] I think if this succeeds it will be a giant step not only just for Natal-KwaZulu but for the whole of South Africa because you will have here for the first time, Mr Bishop, a situation where black and white are actually sharing power, where there is no question of prescription and rejection because the pattern in South Africa has been that, you know, the whites have prescribed and whites reject, whites prescribe and blacks reject. We are trying to get out of that vicious cycle of prescription and rejection.

[Bishop] Yes. Some of your critics, of course, have said on the other side that if this...[changes thought] if you pull this off for Natal-KwaZulu, a kind of self-governing unit if you like, that this will only further fragment the country. How do you react to that?

[Buthelezi] I think that is quite...[changes thought] it is hogwash, you, see, that is the name of it. Because, clearly, even the Buthelezi commission itself was set up in the context of South Africa. We are proud of the fact that we are South Africans, and this in fact is the first step towards a unified South Africa. Because the government's policy was that the Zulus must be separate, as other ethnic groups should be separate, and that white and black be separate, so we are actually mending the situation by bringing white, black, and people of all ethnic groups in this region together, to govern together, to decide things together. So in fact this would be a giant step forward, not for KwaZulu-Natal, but for the whole country.

[Bishop] Chief Buthelezi, Mr Cadman says he thinks the whites will go with this proposal. But what about the Indians and the colored people?

[Buthelezi] As far as I know, many Indians are definitely in favor. In fact, I would say most of the Indians are in favor of this. In fact there were some Indians who were feeling unhappy that the discussions that have been taking place between KwaZulu and Natal administration were not talks in which they were themselves involved. So, therefore, it was not the stage at which we could have involved them, because we are only talking about rationalizing our authority. Now is the place when we should invite them as well, because when the survey was done for the Buthelezi commission — done, you know, by an independent research organization — it was discovered that in fact most of the Indians were in favor of this kind of move.

[Bishop] Do you see a truly representative multiracial Kwazulu-Natal, or whatever you care to call it, in the future? Is that how you see it?

[Buthelezi] Yes. Because this, Mr Bishop, is interdependence in action. And that for the first time I think that both black and white groups, including Indians and coloreds in this region, are more interdependent than in any other part of South Africa, and I believe therefore that if it takes off here, that will be a ray of hope for the whole country as such, because we are a society which is alienated from each other. As people, we are alienated. If it can be proved in this region that in fact it is possible for black and white to decide together, then I think even the whole international community is watching this. You know that I have had discussions with heads of states in the West, you know, with President Reagan, and hardly 2 weeks ago, I was with Chancellor Kohl in Bonn, and all of them believe it, are very, very much interested in this. And yesterday, in fact, I spoke to some very important people who are in the country from abroad as well, and they say that they are all watching this because you see, if this thing does not take off, then, God save South Africa. Because I fear, for instance, that my own constituency...[change of thought] as far as the youth in particular is concerned, I will have nothing to say to them because they are under great pressure from those people who say there is nothing left to do in this country except to kill each other. Now this will prove in fact that that is not true, that in fact a future can be negotiated.

[Bishop] Finally, how long will all this take? There is an indaba on 3 April. When do you see this actually happening?

[Buthelezi], No, the indaba, in fact... [changes thought] We are not going to hurry that. In fact, that might just be the first session, I mean, we are not simplistic about it, that, you know, we are going to wave a magic wand and everything will happen. We know that it is going to be a protracted thing which will need patience on the part of all those participating.

[Bishop] Chief Minister, thank you very much.

[Buthelezi] Thank you, Mr Bishop [end video].

[Bishop] Finally, between his busy parliamentary commitments, we managed to speak to the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis.

[Begin video] [Bishop] Mr Minister, as a result of the talks with Chief Buthelezi and Mr Cadman, what, briefly and in essence, are you putting before Cabinet?

[Heunis] I have been ... [changes thought] I am sorry, can we start again?

[Bishop] Yes, certainly. You have had talks now with Chief Buthelezi and Mr Cadman. What in essence are you now going to put before Cabinet?

[Heunis] I have been presented this morning with proposals by the administrator of Natal and the chief minister of the government of KwaZulu, a document which proposes to establish a joint executive between the executive of Natal administration and the KwaZulu Government.

[Bishop] Now, I think Chief Buthelezi sees legislative powers. What are your comments on that?

[Heunis] Well, proposals in this regard have not been submitted to me or to the government. The council of the province had taken a decision last year requesting the South African Government to establish a statutory body to provide links between that administration and the Kwazulu Government on matters of common concern. Since that decision had been taken, the parties involved have negotiated institutions to give effect to that resolution. What had been submitted to me today represents their conclusion and consensus on such an institution, and it does not relate at all at this stage to any proposed legislative institution.

[Bishop] But you will know that the high flying that has been taking place — press comment and so on — they are seeing this, some quarters are seeing this, as if you like, a democratic example to South Africa eventually, with a multiracial legislative body all working well together. How do you comment?

[Heunis] I could hardly speculate as to what the end result could be in respect of their own negotiations. The provincial council had taken a second decision at their most recent session, to the effect that they want to negotiate for a legislature. I understand that so far the political party in charge of the province of Natal had in fact with members of the government of KwaZulu initiated what they call an indaba on a proposed legislature for Natal. At this stage it would be presumptious for me to comment on this because I do not know what they have in mind, and whether they would in fact be able to arrive at consensus on these issues.

[Bishop] Chief Buthelezi indicates that time is running short. For him, for his appeal to constituents, for South Africa. He indicates there must be more legislative teeth given to him. What is your comment?

[Heunis] Well, there again, the government has accepted the principle that more powers, in other words, should be given to the national state governments. The government contemplates to give effect to this during this session of Parliament, and I hope to introduce legislation in this regard in the very near future.

[Bishop] I am asking you to be a bit of prophet. If you look forward to, say, a successful conclusion to these talks to the satisfaction of all parties, what price the homelands policy, KwaZulu as a separate entity, and so forth?

[Heunis] Well, there again it would depend as to what proposals they could in fact agree upon, and I do not believe at this stage that one should anticipate the discussions between the parties concerned... One must also understand that there are other communities involved in that region who have not been consulted at this stage, on even the proposals that have been submitted to me today. I would warn against premature speculative discussions on proposals that might come forth or might not come forth.

To whom are you referring, sir? You mean, the whites, or the Indians, or the coloreds?

[Heunis] I am talking about the colored community and the Indian community. They are not represented in either of the governmental institutions that have in fact found consensus on a statutory body on the executive level.

[Bishop] Yes. Mr Cadman indicated that he thinks the whites would go along with something, as they have proposed, and the same for Indians and coloreds as far as Chief Buthelezi is concerned.

[Heunis] Yes. I would not at this stage want to comment on that perception either. I think the correct procedure now would be for me to submit the proposals to government, for the government to take a view on those proposals, and convey their dicision to the instances concerned.

[Bishop] Yes. Minister, can you comment on the fact that the UDF [United Democratic Front], AZAPO [Azanian People's Organisation], and ANC have refused to come to the indaba?

[Heunis] Well, I never expected that they would come. Obviously, they are not interested in peaceful solutions.

[Bishop] But how will that be seen internationally ... [changes thought] You will be aware, of course, and I know you know, that the ANC are flying quite high at the moment in international circles.

[Heunis] My reaction to that is simply that though one would not want your country to be isolated from the international community, surely we could not experiment in South Africa with concepts which we have to suffer the consequences of in South Africa.

[Bishop] Mr Minister, thank you very much.

[Heunis] Thank you. [end video]

Oppenheimer Says Foreign Pressure Increasing

MB140812 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0533 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, March 14, SAPA — The principle of sanctions is increasingly being seen by foreign governments and private organisations as a means of putting pressure for reform on the South African Government, Mr Harry Oppenheimer told the national meeting of the South African Institute of International Affairs today.

Delivering his report as national chairman of the institute, Mr Oppenheimer said pressures from abroad were becoming powerful influences on the government's reform policies. While it had previously been possible to ignore protest from anti-apartheid movements and student activists in Western countries, "their advocacy of disinvestment and economic withdrawal has now become a serious force."

Private sanctions from foreign banks, universities, trade unions, church groups and international corporations were the most serious form of pressure, he said.

The governments of the U.S., Japan and other European countries had also been forced to use mild sanctions to encourage reform in South Africa and further "measures along the sanctions road" were likely "if the promises of reform are not seen to be bearing tangible fruit without delay."

"Opposition in principle to sanctions, as a means of effecting change in South African policies has been breached" and possible political changes in countries like Britain, Germany and the U.S. in the next few years could intensify this tendency, he said.

He said the disinvestment campaign in the U.S. was instrumental in the decision by U.S. banks at the end of August not to extend their loans to South Africa — a move which "raised the international pressure on U.S. to a level never before experienced and demonstrated South Africa's vulnerability in our economically dependant world."

Mr Oppenheimer noted that overseas concern about reform in South Africa was also reflected in the appointment of high level groups by both the private sector and governments to monitor the situation in South Africa.

These include the Eminent Persons Group appointed by the Commonwealth heads of state, the advisory committee on SA appointed by the U.S. Government, the Corporate Council on South Africa set up by the heads of major U.S. corporations and the British Industry Council. He hoped these groups would be able to "find sufficient grounds for recommending policies other than sanctions" to their constituencies.

Concerning relations with neighbouring states, Mr Oppenheimer said that incursions into Cabinda and Gaborone, support for MNR rebels in Mozambique and the Lesotho blockade "have largely destroyed the positive impression, created by the Lusaka agreement and Nkomati accord" in the international arena.

He said there was hope that the U.S. and Soviet Union could reach an agreement which would help end the related conflicts in Angola and Namibia — potentially the most dangerous issues in southern Africa because of the degree of superpower involvement.

Buthelezi Welcomes Budget 'Sentiments'

MB180553 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2012 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Ulundi, March 17, SAPA — Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, chief minister of KwaZulu and president of Inkatha, said tonight he welcomed the sentiments in which the minister of finance drew up the budget.

"If ever South Africa needs a budget designed for the people, it is now. I only hope that the minister will meet his target and that history will show, this time next year, that this budget was indeed one that meets the needs of all South Africans.

"In more detail I welcome the additional spending on black education, black housing, the infrastructual needs of the underdeveloped rural areas and small towns, and on social pensions.

"I note the disappearance of race discrimination in respect of military pensions and look forward to a similiar situation in repect of social pensions.

"I am pleased that the minister has chosen to stimulate the economy. The need for an increase in employment opportunities for blacks is desperate.

"I hope that the minister is successful in his aim of achieving this economic expansion in an un-inflationary manner but I also believe that he is correct to go for growth even at the cost of some inflation."

UN Refugee Delegation Arrives for Investigations

MB171209 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] A delegation from the office of the UNHCR [United Nations High Commission on Refugees] has arrived in South Africa on a 5-day fact-finding mission. The South African Department of Foreign Affairs says in a statement released in Cape Town that the visit follows the talks held between the South African foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, and the high commissioner for refugees, Mr Jean-Pierre Hocke in Geneva last month.

The delegation will be investigating at first hand the increasing flood of people from neighboring countries entering South Africa.

Interviews Provide More Details on New Helicopter

MB111950 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Recorded interviews with Air Force Chief Lieutenant Denis Earp and Armaments Development and Production Corporation Chairman Piet Marais by Danny Fourie on the "Network" program, introduced live by Kolie van Koller]

[Text][Koller] Despite the arms boycott, South Africa this weekend unveiled its own combat helicopter, locally designed and manufactured. Producter Danny Fourie spoke to the people behind the Alpha XHI.

[Begin video] [Fourie] This experimental tandem configuration helicopter, the Alpha XHI, is one example of this country's developing technology, and it contains several locally produced components in its gearbox, engine, and rotor system. The helicopter is a two-seater tandem configuration. The gunner sits in front while behind him is the pilot. A contract for the design and manufacture of the Alpha combat helicopter was signed in March 1981 with the aviation industry. The helicopter was shown to a limited select defense audience, and 1 year later, the first successful flight was carried out. The helicopter has [illegible] gas turbine and a nonretractable under-carriage. The alpha has a weight of 1,400 kilograms, and it has a maximum loaded mass of 2,200 kilograms. The flight deck is equipped with general instrumentation and avionics. It has a 20-mm cannon mounted under the fusilage. The cannon is aimed with the help of a visor mounted in the helmet of the gunner operator. In other words, wherever the gunner looks, the cannon is aimed there. This has the advantage that the gunner can change from one target to another very rapidly, and as a result, with the excellent visor, it is a formidable weapon. The cannon fires 1,000 rounds at a rate of 600 rounds per minute. The helicopter and the cannon have already been tested successfully, and the Air Force will now be conducting further capability and weapons systems tests on the present prototype. Some of those weapons systems will ultimately be tested on other helicopters of the South African Air Force. Those who worked on the design and manufacture of the Alpha consider it as a technological feasibility undertaking and a means of broadening the local technology with regard to aeronautics. But the question is, why was it decided to built a combat helicopter rather than an combat airplane? I put the question to General Earp, chief of the South African Air Force.

[Earp] Well, there is an operational need for such a combat helicopter. And, after all, one has to begin somewhere, building up the skill, technology, and knowledge and ability, and we decided that this would be a good point to begin. The design, development, and manufacture are totally South African. So it cannot be more South African than that.

[Fourie] Doesn't the Alpha helicopter have an unconventional design?

[Earp] Not really. It is strange that those who have designed combat helicopters have decided on this final design. For example, the Hughes AH-64 Apache, the Agusta 129 Mangusta, and even the Russian MI-24 look like the Alpha. In other words, the gunner sits in front of the pilot. The reason is simple. His view is much better from that position.

[Fourie] Can one expect to see the Alpha in action in the operational area in future?

[Earp] Not necessarily. You see this is a prototype, and we know we can do it, but we have not yet finally decided whether this will be the final design. But the possibility cannot be ruled out.

[Fourie] Is it worth the time, energy, and money spent on it?

[Earp] I think it is worth it, even though it has cost a lot of money. You must remember that the Russians have a veto right in the UN Security Council. So if someone would want to sell us such an aircraft, the Russians would simply veto the decision. I do not believe that the Russians would allow us to receive weapons for a long time to come.

[Fourie] Isn't such a project very expensive?

[Earp] I concede it is expensive but you must remember that it is not all expenditure. The people who are eventually going to put these aircraft into production, the engineers, and companies involved, are all high technologists and during its production many people will become involved. So the country's infrastructure will be involved and for every contract placed by the Air Force, people will have to be employed and paid.

[Fourie] With the unveiling of the Alpha helicopter attention has been focused on ARMSCOR and the role it is playing in the establishment of an extensive armaments industry in South Africa. But does the unveiling of the Alpha mean that South Africa has finally broken the arms boycott?

[Marais] No. I wish it was so because we have always had to develop sophisticated equipment to keep up with the rest of the world. I would go so far as to say that we are proud of what we have already achieved, and with the technology which we have mastered — the design, complex systems applied to a helicopter — we have come a long way, but there is no country in the world that can be 100 percent self-sufficient. We have succeeded in creating a unique armaments industry in South Africa, and I am repeating what experts of the weapons industry in other parts of the world have said to us here. We have a very broad spectrum of products manufactured here which are unequalled by any other country of the same size.

[Fourie] What are the advantages of self-sufficiency in weaponry for South Africa, for example, in the international political arena?

[Marais] It is very interesting. You know there are many countries today who are dependent on the two superpowers for obtaining weaponry. Angola is one that is dependent on Russia. There are others such as the Phillipines, which are dependent on the United States. I think we gained an advantage in arms productions because South Africa is now completely independent as a result of the Resolution 418. Politically, our government can negotiate and move freely in southern Africa without threat from any quarter and this on account of its arms industry.

Mine Management Denies Encouraging Faction Fights

MB181406 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1400 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 18, SAPA — A spokesman for Anglo American's Vaal Reefs gold mine today denied allegations by members of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) that mine management had encouraged faction fights at the mine in order to undermine the NUM.

Mr Barry Avery, a spokesman for the Anglo American Corporation, also denied shaft steward claims that workers at the mine were being dismissed.

"We deny the allegation that management is using the faction fights to break the NUM," he said.

"The workers have not been dismissed. They have resigned voluntarily."

Mr Avery added that management was "in constant contact with NUM" and "would discuss the clashes with the union in an effort to bring the situation back to normal."

A Vaal Reefs spokesman reported earlier that about 1250 miners had resigned this morning in the wake of the faction fights.

1,750 Workers Return Home

MB181726 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1722 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 18, SAPA — A total of 1750 workers at Vaal Reefs gold mine are being sent away after they had asked the mine's management yesterday to return to their homes, a spokesman for the mine said today.

The spokesman said it was expected that most of these workers would have left the mine by tonight.

He said: "Yesterday 1750 workers at Vaal Reefs gold mine had requested management's permission to return to their homes.

Management has acceded to their request and the workers are being given every assistance.

"Those leaving at the moment comprise 550 East Division employees and 1200 West Division employees."

Another Killed; Death Toll at 17

MB191209 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1143 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Johannesburg, March 19, SAPA — Another black mineworker has died in fighting at the Vaal Reefs gold mine near Orkney, bringing the total number of deaths in the past week to 17.

A spokesman for Anglo American said today that a fight involving residents of the No 4 Shaft Hostel broke out last night and resulted in the serious injury of an employee who later died in hospital.

"Mine security was called in and tear gas was used to restore order. Other residents of the No 4 Shaft Hostel barricaded certain areas and started fires in rubbish bins and a bedroom. Mine security broke down the barricades and quenched the fires," the spokesman said.

The situation at the mine was tense but quiet this morning. Al shifts were working normally.

Trouble at Vaal Reefs began last week on Tuesday when two miners were killed and 25 injured in fighting that broke out at the No 1 Shaft Hostel. On Saturday and Sunday faction fighting erupted between Xhosa and Sotho workers at the No 3 Shaft Hostel, killing eight and injuring 66. Fighting started again on Monday night this week at the No 5 Shaft Hostel Between Xhosa and Sotho factions resulting in six deaths and eight serious injuries.

33 Arrested in Cookhouse Killings, Violence

MB140547 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2257 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] East London, March 13, SAPA — A total of 33 people have been arrested in connection with deaths of at least four people and the destruction of several houses in the Cookhouse township in the past two weeks.

The deaths were the result of a feud between the UDF [United Democratic Front] and the influential Kakana family, which had refused to join the UDF-affiliated Cookhouse Youth Organisation (COYA) last year, the police liaison officer for the Eastern Cape, Col Gerrie Van Rooyen said today.

On February 26 a 45-year-old woman, Mrs Nokhaya Menzie, a member of the UDF, was killed when she was attacked with a hammer. On the same day an 18-year-old Kakana boy was shot dead by an unknown person, he said.

More violence erupted at the weekend when large groups of UDF supporters converged on the township for the funeral of Mrs Menzie. After the funeral a crowd set alight nine houses in the township, Col Van Rooyen said. Mroe fighting erupted and a 13-year-old girl and 17-year-old boy of the Kakane family were killed.

Sisulu, Other Treason Trialists Moved

MB141747 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1720 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 14, SAPA — Five men accused of treason, terrorism and contravention of the Internal Security Act in the Rand Supreme Court will be moved from Leeuwkop Prison to the Johannesburg Prison, following an in-loco inspection of their prison conditions today.

Mr H.C. Viljoen, SC [Senior Counsel], appearing for Mr Hamilton Mncidisi Dubasi, 28, Mr Jongumzi Sisulu, 26, Mr Lumkile Happy Mkefa, 21, Mr David Matsose, 24, and Mr Joseph Themba Maja, 25, yesterday complained that their conditions of imprisonment had deteriorated after they had been moved from Pretoria to Leeukwop for the trial. He said the men had been kept in a showerroom at the prison.

Police Kill Four When Van Attacked Near Klerksdorp

MB191431 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1429 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Klerksdorp, Mar 19, SAPA — Four people were killed and several injured when police opened fire with shotguns on a crowd of about 1000 who were allegedly stoning and petrol-bombing a police van at Joubeon, near Klerksdorp, early on Sunday morning.

Capt B.F. van Heerden, police liaison officer for Potchefstroom, said two people were killed by police at the scene and two later died in hospital. He said they had not yet been identified.

The crowd had gathered to attend a night vigil organised by the Jouberton Youth Congress to commemmorate the death of Mr Nyene Khwane, who was shot by police on March 16, last year. The vigil was being held at the home of Mr Khwane, where a tent had been pitched to accommodate the hundreds of people who were to attend the commemoration on Sunday.

A police spokesman for the Public Relations Division in Pretoria said today trouble started at about 2.40am on Sunday when a Development Board van was attacked and police used birdshot to disperse the crowd. He said an hour later a councillor's house was attacked and a private house petrol-bombed.

At about 4am a police van on patrol nearby was petrol-bombed, where a crowd of about 1000 had gathered. The spokesman said extensive damage was caused to the police van. He said police opened fire with shotguns and two people were killed. Two others died later from their injuries.

Capt van Heerden said eight people had been arrested and were expected to appear in court tomorrow. Police investigations were continuing, he said.

Three Die in Student-Gang Fighting in Diepkloof

MB191159 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1142 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 19, SAPA — At least three people have died, and two houses and four cars set alight between yesterday and the early hours of today in Diepkloof near Soweto during pitched battles allegedly between pupils and members of the Kabasa gang.

A police spokesman said murder dockets had been opened and investigations were continuing. He could not comment on the affiliations of the people involved.

Several other people are believed to have been admitted to hospital as a result of the battle.

Two of the people who died were burnt alive at about mid-day yesterday after more than 3,000 pupils raided a house where members of the gang were holed-up anticipating an attack on them.

Several shots were fired by people inside the house before members of the gang fled and the house was attacked with petrol bombs. The house was completely destroyed.

At about 6 pm yesterday members of the gang returned to the neighbourhood and are said to have abducted four young people. Witnesses said some were later found dead in Orland East.

At midnight members of the gang travelling in a convoy of vehicles that included a truck, mini-buses and a luxury car struck again and set alight a house belonging to a school teacher. It was razed to the ground.

The gang is alleged to have gone to another house which they also attempted to set alight. No damage was done to the house but two cars in the yard were completely destroyed by fire.

Community Councillor Attacked, Boy Killed

MB191405 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1404 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 19, SAPA — A community councillor in the Seisoville township of Kroonstad fired a shot when he was attacked by a mob in a stone-throwing incident in the township on Monday and killed an eight-year-old boy. The incident occurred when the councillor's vehicle was pelted with stones.

A spokesman for the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria said the shooting was being investigated. Three activists were arrested.

The dead boy was Vincent Mntuze, a pupil at Boiteko Lower Primary School.

Black Man Injured by Springs Explosion

MB170718 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0711 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 17, SAPA — A black man was seriously injured when a limpet mine exploded in a dustbin in front of the Indian Administration Building in Springs on Saturday night.

A spokesman for the Police Directorate of Public Relations said in Pretoria today the blast occurred at about 10.30pm.

The Indian Administration Building is situated opposite the Springs Railway Station. The spokesman said the explosion damaged four vehicles and shattered 50 windows of surrounding buildings.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 18 Mar

MB181723 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1721 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 18, SAPA — Following is SAP unrest report to 7pm:

"At Claremont, near Durban, arsonists extensively damaged a post office vehicle, a delivery vehicle and a private vehicle in separate incidents.

"At KwaZakhele, near Port Elizabeth, a private vehicle was extensively damaged when it was petrol bombed.

"At Caroline, in the eastern Transvaal, a councillor's house was stoned. He fired at the mob and two people were injured in the incident.

"At Soweto, near Johannesburg, a delivery vehicle was extensively damaged when it was attacked by a group of blacks.

"In other incidents three men were stabbed to death and two houses extensively damaged by arsonists."

End report.

Early 19 Mar

MB190715 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0654 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, Mar 19, SAPA — The following is the overnight unrest report issued by the Police Directorate of Publications in Pretoria.:

"At Mohlakeng near Randfontein two private vehicles were destroyed by arsonists.

"At Atteridgeville near Pretoria two buses were stoned and another two were petrol-bombed. At Mamelodi a man was arrested after a road was barricaded with tyres.

"In Soweto two men were burnt when burning tyres were placed around them. At this stage it is unknown what their condition is. In other incidents a delivery vehicle, three private vehicles and two private dwellings were destroyed by fire.

"At Lamontville near Durban the SAP dispersed a mob with shotgun fire when their vehicle was stoned.

"At Seisoville near Kroonstad minor damage was caused when a private vehicle and two buses were stoned.

"At Chesterville and Kwadabeka in Port Natal minor incidents of stone throwing occurred.

"At Kwazakele near Port Elizabeth the private dwellings of two councillors and a policeman were petrol-bombed.

"At Ragbanweg black residential area near Port Elizabeth a man was injured by stones when 2 private vehicles were stoned.

"At Walmer the SAP used shotgun fire when a mob petrol bombed a private dwelling. No injuries were reported.

"At Ikageng near Potchefstroom the SAP used shotgun and pistol fire to disperse a mob when a private dwelling was petrol-bombed. A man was arrested. In another incident slight damage was caused when a private home was petrol-bombed.

"At Carolina in the Eastern Transvaal a man was wounded when the SAP dispersed a mob with shotgun fire after a private home was petrol-bombed."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB190631 [Editorial Report]

CITIZEN on Budget

In an editorial on pages 1 and 2 on the government's new budget, Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 18 March says that "when taxpayers get a cut in their taxes at a time when the country is still not out of its recession, inflation is at a record level and great amounts have to be spent on education, housing and other forms of social upliftment, they can be well pleased with the budget." Although the phasing out of the bread subsidy means that "a staple food of the poor will cost progressively more," "there have been very big increases in the amounts set aside for black education and housing and they can no longer question the government's sincerity in seeking their socio-economic upliftment."

French Elections 'Cheerful News'

In an editorial on page 4 on the results of elections in France, *THE CITIZEN* says "the right-wing victory in France is cheerful news in these dark days of unrest, disinvestment and threats of sanctions. For our arch-enemy, Socialist Prime Minister Laurent Fabius, has been ousted." The move to the right in France means that "now there will be a thaw in the icy contacts between Pretoria and Paris," the paper says.

Petition Against Integrating University

"A new petition has been served on the rector of Pretoria University, Prof Danie Joubert, objecting strongly to the opening of the university to students of other races," the paper reports on page 10. "However, the attitude of the university hierarchy is that the decision to do so is an accomplished fact and it is not even entertaining any further moves to review the decision."

Subsidies for Foreign Whites

"The Transvaal Education Department yesterday denied allegations of 'improper or unauthorised handling of money,' " Erik Larsen reports on page 17. A Sunday newspaper had reported that the department had spent millions of rands of taxpayers money on subsidies for white students from Zimbabwe and Botswana attending government schools in northern Transvaal. In a statement, the education department said that all parents of students in government schools were free to apply for financial aid and that this aid has not adversely affected any other student.

PFP Criticizes NP Propaganda Distribution

Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 17 March carries a report on page 5 which says "the Bureau for Information's latest bid to establish a country-wide network for the distribution of National Party [NP] propaganda using state employees was yesterday condemned as 'an outrageous abuse of the government's position' by the Progressive Federal Party [PFP]." The bureau had sought to have local and provincial authorities cooperate in distributing leaflets "to further publicize President P.W. Botha's controversial 'this is the reality' advertising campaign."

CAPE TIMES on Police Decision

In an editorial on page 8, the *CAPE TIMES* comments on a recent decision by the police to bar *CAPE TIMES* reporter Chris Bateman from crime briefings after he had interviewed eyewitnesses to the Guguletu shootout. The police have told Bateman that he is not welcome because he does not hold a special accreditation card signed by the commissioner of police. If this card is required of all journalists, it "is a breach of an agreement between the Newspaper Press Union and the South Africa Police and, as few journalists hold such a card, this ruling, if enforced, will lead to a breakdown in the flow of essential news and information to the public." However, if the ruling is enforced only against Bateman, "it will be difficult to resist a conclusion that he is being punished for doing an honest job of reporting."

Rent Boycott May Be Called Off

"A 10-member committee was elected at a masss meeting in Nyanga yesterday to negotiate conditions under which the rent boycott in black townships may be lifted," the *CAPE TIMES* reports on page 9. The committee will meet with officials from the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning. "Conditions under which the boycott may be ended include the lowering of rent to R10 a month, rent arrears from the boycotts to be written off, troops be removed from the townships and that demands by school children be met."

SOWETAN on Education Meeting

In its editorial on page 4, Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 18 March notes that Dr Beyers Naude recently told a Black Sash meeting that a ban on the national education conference scheduled to be held in Durban at the end of the month would lead to increased violence, polarization, and repression. Since "most children are at school in a somewhat doubtful fashion," "they might believe some of their demands have been met" although they are still "looking at the release of their colleagues and the unbanning of their organisations like COSAS [Congress of South African Students]." To ban the meeting would only aggravate the situation. The fact that students are still "at school is a great mercy and most of us are keeping our fingers crossed."

Civic Groups Condemn Funeral Incident

Monk Nkomo reports on page 7 that various civic groups in Atteridgeville, including the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organization, the Saulsville/Atteridgeville Women's Organization, the Detainees Parents Support Committee, and the local branch of the United Democratic Front have condemned the police attack on mourners after a joint funeral in the township over the weekend. " 'We have been condemning these actions with the hope that the government will heed our calls. But our calls fall on deaf ears. It is now clear that the government has declared war against the people. The government is not prepared to listen to nonviolent means of solving the country's problems,' " the groups said in a statement.

BUSINESS DAY on Budget

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English for 18 March says in a page 8 editorial that Finance Minister du Plessis, in presenting the new budget, "managed a balancing action of extraordinary dexterity." The editorial calls it "enormously encouraging" that by bringing "appropriate" tax relief to middle-income earners, the finance minister "dipped a toe into the supply-side pool." Neither did he do anything that should increase the role of the government in the economy. The announcement by the Reserve Bank that it is introducing a form of money supply growth targeting based on streamlined monetary definitions is "enormously heartening." This means that if government spending gets out of control, the bank's governor will be able "to throw a belt around Barend's braces." And finally, the editorial says, it "is reassuring" that the deficit before borrowing has been kept within bounds and the "financing of the deficit has been arranged without foreign borrowing and in a manner that will not mean a crowding out by government of the private sector."

Warning on Economy

An article on page 12 of *BUSINESS DAY* says the chairman of Standard Bank Investment Corporation [STANBIC] has warned that there "is no certainty that the economic revival can be sustained throughout the current year." He said in the banking group's annual report that a sustained revival would depend to a "large degree on significant progress towards solving political and social programmes." Longer-term prospects for real growth in group assets, profits and dividends is "inextricably linked to the future performance of the SA economy." Positive short-term elements are: more favorable agricultural conditions, recently firmed gold price, more stable rand and the fact that the money supply and government finances are now under better control. However, inflation remained far too high and business failures were still common.

STAR on Budget

The Johannesburg *STAR* in English for 18 March says in an editorial on page 16 that the verdict on the 1986 budget "must remain a mixed one." The doubts, "as in so many other areas of this government's policy," arise when one looks beyond the immediate good intentions. Will our "spendthrift bureaucracies" be held to the renewed promise to restrain government spending? The tax cut hardly affects the poor, but the higher bread price will. And there seems very little in the budget designed to check inflation. What is welcome, the editorial says, is the thrust towards "upliftment" of underdeveloped areas. However, the benefits will reach their targets only in gradual stages and we must hope that meanwhile, "all other volatile socio-political elements at work in the country can be reasonably contained."

Criticism of SWAPO

The Johannesburg *RAPPORT* in Afrikaans of 16 March reports on page 3 that a committee of parents in South-West Africa, none of whom are government propagandists, have alleged that the SWAPO leadership is guilty of mass detention, murder, and general terrorism against supporters in SWAPO camps in Zambia. The report says three members of the committee made these allegations this week in Frankfurt, West Germany. The committee, writes reporter Herman Jansen from Windhoek, was formed last March by parents and family members of blacks who had left the territory to join the organization. The three committee members were invited by the international human rights organization to give evidence. The report adds that since 22 February of this year 63 residents of Ovambo, among them 50 school children, have been abducted by SWAPO.

RAPPORT on Schools

In an editorial the paper says the issue of open schools has been over-politicized among our communities. "For colored and black people school apartheid has become the big stumbling block against which they agitate, while to the white the separate school has become something he will defend till he drops. We agree with Minister De Klerk's statement in Parliament that the opening of schools, or the establishment of an executive education department, is not a magic formula which will solve all the problem." The whole issue cannot be decided on at this stage, as it is all part of a new dispensation. "But in the meantime, what the minister said still applies: 'Radicals who instigate children to arson, boycotts, and violence have no interest in the welfare of the children and should be rejected by the individual and the community.' "

Pretoria Boycott Plans

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 18 March reports on page 6 that business leaders in Pretoria have refused to comment on the renewed black consumer boycott which is planned to begin 24 March. It quotes Mr John Mulder, chairman of the Pretoria Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce, as saying his organization has designed a plan according to which its members can counter the boycott. "The view of the chamber is that neither the chairman nor any of the members should negotiate with the organizers of the boycott. He has also recommended to all members that if black workers stay away from work as a result of the boycott, they should not be paid for the period they are absent."

BEELD on Budget

In an editorial on page 10 the paper says Finance Minister Barend du Plessis has shown by his budget that the country is not on the way to chaos and misery like so many other African states. "Only a very luke-warm South African would not snap up the message of confidence and hope from our youthful minister and act on it." The government, it concludes, has done its share. Now it is the turn of all citizens to show what they can do for their country and how much confidence they have in it.

Education Contributions

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans of 17 March reports on page 4 that Robin Plumbridge, chairman of Gold Fields, said in Vanderbijlpark that all organizations, large and small, ought to make their financial contribution to the provision of more education facilities. He was speaking at the opening of a new library at the Vaal Triangle Technikon, towards which his organization had contributed. "He pointed out that the shortage of properly trained workers was the direct cause of low productivity, endless cost increases and alarming unemployment. Mr Plumbridge said the burden of education should not be borne by the state alone."

Public Organized Against Crime

In its editorial on page 6, the paper says investigation has shown that the public is beginning to organize itself against crime and the threat of unrest, but that the police force is opposed to such organizations, and for good reason. But the paper points out that as a result of the unrest, which has to be given preference by the police, the law enforcement agency has become overextended and the force is unable to carry out its normal duties. "The unrest itself has led to many blacks sleeping or roaming around white areas at night rather than return home to their own dangerous areas. This, together with unemployment and the influx of blacks to urban areas, causes a greater criminal element to be present in white areas at night." It says the public is prepared and feels it necessary to give a hand in crime prevention and protection, and asks that the police make use of this desire among the public by expanding the police reserve, where these people could serve. "In this way the public will be organized to defend themselves but will be properly trained and under police control and discipline."

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 MARCH 1986

20 March Middle East & South Asia Review

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes attacked a "large maritime target" near the Iranian coast 20 March after Iraqi naval forces attacked a bridge in Abadan, two "large maritime targets," and one "very large maritime target" 19 March, according to an Iraqi military spokesman cited in separate INA reports. In an earlier attack, Iraqi planes raided a munitions factory near Ahvaz 19 March, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. IRNA said the message was in response to reports that U.S. warships had anchored off karachi. The U.S. ships' presence near the Pakistani port was "a response by foreign powers to recent Iranian gains in the war fronts," IRNA added. In Tehran, the Soviet ambassador delivered a message to an Iranian official from the Soviet prime minister stressing that the USSR "decisively opposes" the use of chemical weapons by anyone for any reason, Tehran radio reported.

Egypt-Israel

Cairo Gunmen Attack Israelis — One Israeli was killed and three others slightly injured when their car was fired on by unidentified gunmen outside the grounds of the Cairo International Trade Fair, MENA reported, adding that Egyptian authorities are searching for the attackers. The report said the Israelis had just finished their work in the Israeli pavilion at the fair when they were attacked from two cars. A group calling itself the "Organization of the Revolutionaries of Egypt" subsequently claimed responsibility for the attack, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. In a statement distributed to news agencies in Cairo, the group said its "armed Nasirite vanguards" had made the attack to retaliate against the presence of an Israeli pavilion at the Cairo fair, the report added.

Further Talks Held on Tabah — The Egyptian and Israeli delegations held further talks on the Tabah issue in Egypt 19 March, MENA reported. An Egyptian spokesman said that the talks dealt with the use of international arbitration to settle the Tabah dispute, the report added.

Egypt

Jordanian King Arrives — King Husayn arrived in Cairo 20 March on a visit scheduled to last a few hours, MENA reported. King Husayn and President Husni Mubarak held talks immediately following the king's arrival, according to a later Amman radio report.

PRC President Ends Visit — PRC President Li Xiannian concluded the official part of his visit to Egypt 20 March and left Cairo to visit Luxor, MENA reported.

Gaza Strip, Jerusalem Attacks

Israeli Security forces captured two "terrorists" who admitted to the 19 March murder of two residents of Khan Yunus in the Gaza Strip, Jerusalem radio reported. In a separate development, the PLO's "Force 17" claimed responsibility for a car bomb which killed one person and wounded three others in Jerusalem 19 March, AFP reported, citing a call to a Western news agency.

OPEC Affairs

Representatives of five OPEC and five non-OPEC oil-exporting countries "held constructive talks" in Geneva 19 March, according to a joint statement on the meeting carried by OPECNA. The statement added that the representatives discussed the present oil market situation "with a view to setting a common ground" for overcoming obstacles. After the meeting, OPEC conference President Arturo Hernandez Grisanti was optimistic that OPEC and non-OPEC states would come to an agreement on a strategy to stabilize the oil market and "restore prices to reasonable levels," according to a later OPECNA report. Some non-OPEC countries which had earlier been unwilling to cooperate with OPEC on bolstering oil prices are now "indicating their awareness that the situation must be corrected," Hernandez said. In remarks reported by KUNA, the Ecuadoran oil minister said OPEC ministers have reached a consensus that OPEC oil production must be cut below 16 million barrels per day in order to "restore" prices.

Iraq-Syria

An Iraqi official spokesman denied Syrian accusations that Iraq was responsible for a booby-trapped truck that exploded in northern Damascus 13 March. In remarks reported by INA, the spokesman said that Iraq "could not have contemplated any harm to its brothers" in Syria, adding that the Syrian leaders "do not hesitate to fabricate a dastardly operation of this type."

Algeria-USSR

President Chadli Bendjedid will "shortly" make an official visit to the USSR, APS reported.

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'Arafat Ready To 'Turn Over New Leaf' With Syria

GF201006 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has said the PLO has adopted a decision to turn over a new leaf with Syria. In an exclusive statement published today in the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I*, he said that the rest is left to the brothers in the Syrian leadership. He pointed out that the PLO, for its part, has halted media campaigns. He expressed hope that Palestinian-Syrian meetings would succeed.

In response to a question on the present status of Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the PLO's stand on this issue, 'Arafat affirmed that the recent statement by the Palestinian leadership represents the Palestinian stand. He indicated that the statement, announced by the PLO in Tunis, expresses the PLO's viewpoint and stand.

'Arafat: Exile Government Not Completely Rejected

GF191104 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Jeddah — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has affirmed that as far the Palestinian viewpoint is concerned, the Jordanian-Palestinian accord is still in force. He said the PLO is willing to discuss all issues with Jordan.

In an interview published today in the Saudi newspaper *'UKAZ*, 'Arafat said that the United States is responsible for the condition this accord has reached. He said the United States has played a role which caused the Jordanian-Palestinian coordination to reach its present stagnation.

On the Moroccan king's call for the establishment of a Palestinian government-in-exile, 'Arafat indicated he has not completely rejected the idea, and that the Palestinian people alone must determine their destiny and the form of government which they accept.

'Arafat renewed his call for Egypt's return to its Arab brothers. He also emphasized the need to halt the Iraq-Iran war, which he described as a serious and continuing attrition of both Iran and Iraq. He expressed hope that Tehran would accept Islamic mediation to end the war.

PNC Chairman Sees Dispersal of PLO-Jordan'Clouds'

LD191138 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0905 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Mar, (KUNA) — Al-Shaykh 'abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, chairman of the Palestinian National Council (PNC), said here today in a statement published by the Kuwait *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* that Jordanian-Palestinian differences following the halt to political coordination between Jordan and the PLO, are mere "summer clouds."

Al-Shaykh al-Sa'ih told the paper that these clouds "will soon disperse when the three leaders, Husayn, Mubarak and 'Arafat, meet in Cairo... This is what we hope, God Willing."

He added "The current circumstances compelled us, Jordanians and Palestinians, to cooperate... The only beneficiaries from deepening the differences between Jordanians and Palestinians, in particular, and among Arabs in general, are Israel and the United States, which gives the former unlimited support in all fields."

The paper stated that Al-Shaykh al-Sa'ih has called upon Arab leaders to convene an Arab summit "to hold consultations, to resolve all their problems and to lay down a clear and frank policy for the Palestinian issue, which would guarantee a just and comprehensive solution which insures the establishment of a Palestinian state on the Palestinian national soil."

PLO Official Urges Convening of Arab Summit

GF191454 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 18 Mar 86 p 21

[Text] Amman — Muhammad Milhim, member of the PLO Executive Committee, has said convening an Arab summit has become an urgent necessity due to the circumstances through which the Arab cause is passing and the daily increasing challenges, as well as the existing Arab impotence and unprecedented disunity.

In an exclusive statement to *AL-SIYASAH*, Muhammad Milhim said that the true intentions of the United States toward the Palestinian issue have become fully clear through the statements made by a U.S. spokesman the day before yesterday in which he called on Arab countries to settle Palestinian refugees in their territories.

In reply to a question in this regard, he noted that such a stand is new evidence of U.S. hostility toward anything Palestinian. He said the U.S. Administration has proved again its flagrant support and bias toward Israeli aggression at the expense of Palestinian national rights.

Muhammad Milhim said that the present Arab situation encourages any U.S. or European official to make any kind of statements. Perhaps such stands will provoke the latent potentials within us to react. He asserted that if the Arab stand was solid, no one would dare to undermine others and trespass upon the refugees' cause.

He stated that the Palestinian people refuse to settle inside or outside Arab countries and only want their land to establish their independent state. He noted the new U.S. proposal does not differ from the concept of the substitute homeland with which the United States has annoyed us over the past few years, but it is of a different style.

Muhammad Milhim said: All of us, whether Arab governments or the PLO, must react to the U.S. Administration's stands which are not new except in their timing. He went on to say: We are sure that the U.S. officials want to liquidate the Palestinian cause. From this point stem the elements of doubt and lack of confidence in the U.S. promises, particularly by Palestinian officials.

He said: We have reached a stage of complete clarity in attitudes. The limits and capabilities of each of us are obvious. The Arab countries which host Palestinians are urged now more than ever to react to the U.S. proposals.

Geneva Court Sentences Palestinians for Bombings

AU191404 Paris AFP in English 1345 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 19 (AFP) — Two Palestinians, Jamil Ahmadi and Muhammad Tahir, were jailed for 9 and 5 years respectively by a Geneva court Wednesday for carrying out bomb attacks here last April against Libyan and Syrian targets.

Ahamadi, 34, and Taher, 24, said they belonged to the "Martyrs of Tal Za'tar" organization, named after a Palestinian refugee camp in Beirut which was overrun by Christian militia in 1976 after a 52-day siege in which an estimated 1,600 people died.

The Palestinians admitted placing bombs which destroyed the Libyan Arab Airlines offices here and blew up the car of Ahmad Sakir, Syrian charge d'affaires to international organizations.

There were no injuries in the attacks, although Mr. Saker and his wife suffered from shock.

Disposal experts defused a third bomb left under the car of another Syrian diplomat Abd al-Wahab Barakat, a nephew of President Hafiz al-Asad.

Dr. Ahamadi said that they had not intended to kill, but simply "send a warning to Libya and Syria , who are massacring Palestinians."

Grisanti Believes Price Stability Accord Possible

LD192312 Vienna OPECNA In English 2004 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 19 Mar 86 (OPECNA) — OPEC conference President Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti tonight expressed optimism that further consultations between OPEC and non-OPEC oil producing countries would result in an agreement on a strategy to stabilize the world oil market and restore prices to reasonable levels.

He told journalists following the second round of talks between five OPEC oil ministers and representatives of five non-OPEC oil producing countries that the consultations would be continued, as both sides were conscious that they must "fulfil their responsibilities".

"We still have a lot of work to do," he added.

In a reference to the impact of falling oil prices, Hernandez, who is Venezuela's energy and mines minister, said some "important developments" were currently taking place, such as the decision of oil companies throughout the world to "cut their payrolls".

He said that some non-OPEC oil producing countries, which had been unwilling to cooperate with the organization in its efforts to restore market stability, were now "indicating their awareness that the situation must be corrected".

"These countries know very well that a further deterioration of the market will hit them very hard," he stated.

The 77th (extraordinary) OPEC conference meeting will resume Thursday [20 March] morning. At the same time, the group of experts chaired by OPEC Deputy Secretary General Dr Fadhil J. al-Chalabi will meet separately.

OPEC, Non-OPEC Producers in 'Constructive' Talks

LD192302 Vienna OPECNA in English 1915 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text]Geneva, 19 Mar. 86 (OPECNA) — OPEC and non-OPEC representatives, who met here today to discuss the present oil market situation, said in a joint statement that the talks were held "in a constructive atmosphere".

The full text of the joint statement is as follows:

A sub-committee of the OPEC conference, chaired by the conference's president, He Dr. Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, minister of energy and mines of Venezuela, and composed of heads of delegation of Indonesia, the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, Nigeria, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela, met, on behalf of OPEC, ministers and representatives from certain oil exporting countries outside OPEC, namely, Angola, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico and Oman, in Geneva today, 19th March 1986, and held constructive talks in which they shared the same sense of responsibility vis-a-vis their respective countries and the stability of the international oil market.

Both OPEC and non-OPEC representatives discussed the present oil market situation with a view to setting a common ground to overcome the obstacles that they are facing. The talks were held in a constructive atmosphere.

The OPEC conference will resume tomorrow and another meeting between OPEC and non-OPEC representatives is scheduled to be held after tomorrow's OPEC conference in order to work out an effective strategy to restore stability to the world oil market.

Nigeria Predicts 20 Dollars Per Barrel Price

AU192116 Paris AFP in English 2105 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text]Geneva, March 19 (AFP) — Nigerian Petroleum Minister Rilwanu Lukman Wednesday [19 March] made it clear that Nigeria sees a crude oil price of at least 20 dollars a barrel as a target for efforts of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to bolster the world oil market.

He said that in order to reverse the recent price collapse, discussions among OPEC ministers on production cutbacks were now focusing on a range of 13 to 16 million barrels a day (MBD) as the upper limit for total OPEC output.

Implicitly confirming that the 13 member countries differ on this, he said, however, that "the margin is narrowing". He did not rule out the possibility of a suspension of the conference.

"My perception is that we are going to try to reach an agreement before we rise," he said, adding: "if we need further consultations, we'll meet again."

Mr. Lukman said all agreed that "if you're going to improve the price, you have to do something about production", and that the volume would depend on the price you want."

He said Nigeria favoured across the board cuts in member countries' national quotas, but acknowledged that "maybe some adjustments will have to be made."

The relationship between individual countries' quotas "should not be different from what they are now," Mr. Lukman said.

UAE: Production Cuts Depend on 'All Producers'

AU191717 Paris AFP in English 1708 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 19 (AFP) — United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mani Sa'id al-'Utayba Wednesday [19 March] made it clear that Britain and Norway must share responsibility for any effort to reduce world overproduction of crude oil.

Asked whether OPEC would be able to agree on production cuts, he said that "responsibility must be shared by all producers."

Asked if this included Britain and Norway, he simply repeated: "By all producers."

Mr. Al-'Utayba was speaking here at a ministerial conference of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Ecuadoran Claims Production Cut 'Consensus'

LD191331 Kuwait KUNA in English 1258 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 19 (KUNA) — OPEC members reached consensus to cut their production to below the ceiling of 16 million barrels a day in order to restore prices, the Ecuadoran oil minister said Wednesday.

Speaking to journalists while the five OPEC and non-OPEC ministers were in session, he said there was consensus within OPEC on the need to reduce output.

"The only way" to solve the present market dilemma was "to cut back on production," Javier Espinosa Teran commented.

"This would have to be cut from present production of course because those barrels are in the market. If the average for OPEC oil was 17 million barrels in the first quarter that has to be cut back to a level that is being advised and studied by the experts," he stated.

"We have to reduce to the required level to restore prices," the minister went on.

Asked whether this should be below the quota of 16 million barrels, he replied "I think we have to go below that, together with OPEC and non-OPEC."

The OPEC ministers had reached concensus that the cut should be to below the 16 million barrels, he reiterated, but he declined to respond to a query if the appropriate level might be just 14 million barrels.

BAHRAIN

Amir Says GCC Doing Best To Stop Iran-Iraq War

GF151802 Manama WAKH in English 1645 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, Mar 15 (WAKH) — H.H. the amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah was quoted as saying here Saturday that the Gulf Cooperation Council states are doing their best to stop the ongoing Iraqi-Iranian war.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* newspaper, Shaykh 'Isa described the Iranian-Iraqi conflict as regrettable and painful war due to the continued human and material losses it is inflicting. He emphasized that "we in the GCC states have done our best with our brothers to stop that blood letting which serves no one. The impact of that conflict is urging all of us to continue the efforts toward an end to the conflict so that security and stability be restored and to avoid the external dangers," Shaykh 'Isa also said.

The amir of Bahrain pointed out that the Iraqi-Iranian conflict has received due attention by the GCC summit, held in Muscat last November and the recent GCC Ministerial Council which convened in Riyadh.

He further said that the GCC leaders are coordinating and consulting together, taking into consideration the interest and future of the peoples of the region and the security and stability in the area.

Paper: U.S.-Israel Strategic Alliance 'Bitter Fact'

GF190826 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0725 GMT 19 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] In Bahrain, the newspaper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* notes that the strategic alliance between the United States and the Zionist enemy has become, over the past few years, a bitter fact that the Arab world can do nothing about. The two sides have bolstered, consolidated, and strengthened this relationship without taking heed of Arab protests, which were loud at the beginning but grew quieter with time.

In its editorial today the newspaper states that the talks currently taking place in Tel Aviv move the U.S.-Zionist alliance one step further. It is expected that an agreement will be signed between the two sides to store U.S. military equipment in occupied Palestine and to provide for the use of Israeli airfields and ports by U.S. forces. The paper notes that this means that the armed forces of both sides would become interwined and we will not know from now on where the Israeli forces begin and the U.S. forces end.

The paper adds: With this development, the alliance between the United States and the enemy will turn into a solid wall to confront any Arab attempt to regain the occupied territories. The enemy has guaranteed its permanent military superiority over the Arabs — through its interwining with U.S. forces — in any peace negotiation which the Arabs might be compelled to accept.

In conclusion, the paper calls on the Arabs to support legitimate resistance and armed struggle against occupation with all of their abilities, stressing that resistance is the only thing which the U.S.-Zionist strategic alliance cannot foil.

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister Asks Iran To Respond to Peace Calls

GF151900 Doha QNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 15 Mar (QNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has called upon Iran again to respond to calls for peace, pledging at the same time that the GCC countries will continue to exert efforts to stop the Iraq-Iran war.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-SIYASAH* today, he said that the GCC countries have exerted every possible effort to put a limit to this war which is sapping the energy of the two countries and the region and that they have called upon Iran on every occasion to respond to Iraq's call for peace. He affirmed that the GCC countries will not stop exerting every effort to stop this war and prevent its expansion and its threatening of regional and international security.

The Kuwaiti official described coordination among the GCC countries as continuous in all military, defense, security, political, and economic fields. He said that the GCC is a reality which imposes itself on all levels and out of everyone's conviction that the concerns and ambitions of the GCC countries are a joint and mutual issue.

About the Peninsula Shield Force which is regarded as the avant-garde or the joint arm of the GCC countries in confronting foreign threats, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that this force exists and is ready to help any [GCC] state when necessary.

Paper: Iraqi Victories Behind U.S. Warning to Iran

GF161815 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Manama, 16 March (WAKH) — A Kuwaiti daily noted that the United States warning to Iran against expanding the war, comes after Iraq's recent victories.

The daily *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* said Iraq's victories are behind the American warning, because the United States was convinced of the certainty of the Iranian defeat, particularly after north Iraq was purged from the last Iranian soldier.

If the U.S. is really keen on ending the war, it can do so or at least limit its effects and consequences through stopping the smuggling of American weapons to Iran, the daily said.

The paper noted that the most important factor in the American initiative is that Washington has seriously felt, for the first time, the possible devastating repercussions of the Gulf escalation, adding Iran itself is still giving open invitations to superpowers to interfere, to threaten the Gulf security.

Iran alone could stop this devilish game to keep the Gulf safe from the superpower ribalry and the danger of foreign interventions, *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* asserted.

OMAN

Kuwaiti Official Departs Following Security Talks

GF200853 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Major General Yusuf Badr al-Khurafi, under secretary at the Kuwaiti Interior Ministry, and his accompanying delegation, left Oman today following a 3-day visit.

In a predeparture statement to the radio correspondent, he expressed his great gratitude for the hospitality and warm welcome he was accorded. He stated that his visit was part of the strengthening of fraternity and cooperation ties in the security field between the two fraternal countries.

The under secretary at the Kuwaiti Interior Ministry was seen off by Shaykh 'Abdallah al-Qatabi, under secretary at the Interior Ministry for local administrative regions affairs; Brigadier General 'Abdallah ibn 'Ali al-Nabri, assistant inspector general of police and customs; a number of senior officers in the Omani Sultan's police; and the Kuwaiti ambassador to Oman.

PDRY

Al-'Attas Says No Mediation With 'Ali Nasir

GF190927 Doha QNA in Arabic 0815 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Mar (QNA) — PDRY Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas has expressed satisfaction with the results of the contacts he held recently with the leaders of the fraternal neighboring counties toward achieving security and stability in the region.

He described his country's relations with the countries of the region as solid and based on fraternal cooperation, good neighborliness, and nonintervention in the internal affairs of others. He affirmed the PDRY's commitment to all of the unity agreements signed with the YAR and stated that efforts would continue to achieve unity between the two countries. The PDRY chairman earlier sent messages to the leaders of a number of countries in the region.

In a statement published by the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* today, Al-'Attas denied that there is mediation between his government and former PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. He also denied reports on instability in the PDRY. He pointed out, however, that his country suffered great economic losses as a result of the events of 13 January 1986.

The PDRY chairman indicated that a large number of people detained as a result of these events have been released and more would be released soon. He added: We welcome the return of the "fugitives" who fled after these incidents and do not regard them all in the same light.

Source Reports on Secret Aden Military Trials

GF191412 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 18 Mar 86 p 1

[Excerpt] In statement to *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM*, a high-ranking Yemeni source said that the ruling authorities in Aden have carried out secret military trials issuing sentences against a number of pilots and air navigators in Badr camp. The source added that these detainees number more than 10,000 and are being held in Ma'shuq, Al-Sawlajan, and Zinjibar prisons, as well as other prisons in the governorates.

SAUDI ARABIA

Aid Given to Sudanese Police, Famine Victims

PM191025 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 12 Mar 86 p 1

[Correspondent report: "King Fahd Presents 124 Suzuki Jeep-type Vehicles with Communications Equipment to Sudanese Ministry of Interior"]

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has presented sisterly Sudan with 124 Suzuki Jeep-type vehicles with communications equipment in order to enhance the Sudanese police services in the nation's capital, Khartoum.

This was stated by Sudanese ambassador to Saudi Arabia 'Isa Mustafa Salamah. He said that the royal gift from his majesty falls within the framework of the distinguished bilateral relations between the two sisterly countries and the cooperation between the Interior Ministries in Khartoum and Riyadh.

The ambassador said that his majesty's gift to the Sudanese police is part of the continuing aid and assistance which the government of sisterly Saudi Arabia, under his majesty's leadership, has been giving to Sudan and its people since the April uprising. Suffice it to say here that Saudi military transport planes daily carry food, clothing, and medical assistance to the drought-stricken areas in Sudan in order to alleviate hardships suffered by the drought victims there.

Paper on Iranian Accusations Against Kingdom

GF190708 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 19 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "We Have Grown Weary of the Falsehoods of Those Guilty of Excesses", the newspaper *'UKAZ* says: We have grown extremely fed up with the campaigns of distortion, falsehoods, and untrue allegations to which this country is subjected at the hands of those who exaggerate in their attempt to mislead and deceive international public opinion concerning their stands which lack commitment and their excesses. What an official spokesman has announced in response to a message by the Iranian president addressed to the OPEC conference through the Iranian media 2 days ago refutes the Iranian allegations and strips them bare.

The spokesman renewed the Kingdom's desire to preserve OPEC's cohesiveness and to protect the joint interests of its members. The spokesman also renewed the Kingdom's proposals to form a neutral committee of experts to examine the facts concerning the Kingdom's production and export. The Kingdom welcomes this because it has nothing to hide. Its clear and frank stands on oil place it in an enviable position.

UAE

PLO's 'Arafat Arrives in Abu Dhabi 19 Mar

GF200558 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0545 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Mar (WAKH) — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Abu Dhabi tonight [19 March] on a visit to the UAE.

During the visit, 'Arafat will meet with a number of senior UAE officials as part of discussions on current developments in the Arab arena in general and the Palestinian question in particular.

British Minister on Oil Prices, Aid to Kuwait

GF191424 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 19 Mar 86 pp 3, 19

[Text] Dubayy — Timothy Renton, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, denied that his country was responsible for the deterioration of oil prices. In a press conference in Dubayy yesterday, he said: It is unreasonable to put the blame on Britain alone regarding the reduction of oil prices. The British minister pointed out that the production of the non-OPEC countries represents only a small portion of the overall OPEC production, and that Britain exports only 1 million bpd and that with the decline of North Sea output this quantity will decrease. In response to a question on his country's non cooperation with OPEC to maintain price levels and to control production, the British Minister said: OPEC itself has no plan to enable us to cooperate with it. We are still waiting for OPEC to develop a comprehensive scheme to reduce production. The British minister said that during his talks in the UAE, Bahrain, and Qatar he had not sensed the belief that Britain is not cooperating.

He expressed his country's readiness to offer any kind of aid to the friendly countries in the region pointing out that the Gulf countries are considered to be a major trading partner and an important trade center for his country. Therefore, his country will not hesitate to offer any aid at any time. The British minister indicated that his remarks on the offering of aid to Kuwait were made as a result of the message addressed by Iran to the United Nations accusing Kuwait of offering aid to Iraq and the possibility of escalating the war to include the GCC states. He said that the remark he made in Doha was: If the Kuwaitis ask for military equipment, Britain will consider this quickly. He added that it is difficult to determine what Kuwait will ask for in this regard. He said that his country's objective is to bring Iran and Iraq to the negotiating table under the umbrella of the United Nations.

USSR Delegation To Visit UAE, To Open Embassy

GF200617 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0610 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Mar (WAKH) — Press reports in Abu Dhabi today said that a high-level USSR diplomatic and technical delegation will arrive in Abu Dhabi next week to make the necessary preparations to open a USSR embassy in the UAE.

The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* quotes reliable Arab diplomatic sources in Moscow as saying that the Soviet delegation will be very high level and that the USSR will announce at a later time its new ambassador to the UAE.

Gunmen Attack Israeli Workers at Cairo Fair

1 Dead, 3 Wounded

NC191951 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1938 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 10 Mar (MENA) — Some unidentified individuals shot at a car tonight that was carrying four persons, including two women, who worked at the Israeli pavilion at the Cairo International Industrial Fair. The four were injured and were rushed to the hospital for treatment. One of the women died of her wounds.

A search has been mounted to arrest the criminals and seize the automobile used in the incident. The four Israelis left in their own car at 1900 today after finishing their shift at the Israeli pavilion. This was when the criminals attacked.

Survivors Off Critical List

NC192131 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2113 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — MENA has learned that the four Israelis were fired on outside the grounds of the Cairo International Fair near Gate No 2. It has also been determined that the criminals employed two cars. One of them was used to cut off the Israelis' automobile, while those in the second vehicle did the shooting.

The authorities are questioning those who were near the scene of the incident. A medical source at the hospital where the three wounded are being treated has said that the injured are now off the critical list. Their wounds are not serious and they have been given the required first aid.

Police Pursue Attackers

NC192144 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2107 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Some unidentified individuals fired on a car this evening that was carrying four people, including two women, who worked in the Israeli pavilion at the Cairo International Industrial Fair. The vehicle's passengers were hit and were rushed to the hospital, where one of the two women died of her wounds. The authorities are now in pursuit of the culprits and the car used in the attack.

The four Israelis left in their own automobile at 1900 after finishing their shift in the Israeli pavilion at the fair. That was when the criminals attacked.

Our correspondent has learned that the criminals used two cars in their assault. According to an eyewitness who was standing at the front gate of the fairgrounds, one of the cars employed by the criminals was a Mercedes, while the other was a Datsun or a Toyota. Our correspondent also reports that the four wounded persons were rushed to Al-Muqawilun al-'Arab Hospital for treatment. The Ministry of Interior appeals to any citizen who saw the incident, or was near the scene, to head for the nearest police station and to pass his information along to the officer in charge. Reports may also be made over the telephone by dialing 122.

'Senior Surgeons' Treating Israelis

NC192204 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2200 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — MENA has learned that a team of senior surgeons is supervising the treatment of the injured Israelis, whose ages range between 25 and 40.

New Group Claims Responsibility

NC192120 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Egyptian radio reported some time ago that four Israeli workers at the Cairo International Fair were fired on and wounded by unidentified individuals in an automobile at approximately 1900 today. This occurred as the Israelis were riding in their own car after finishing their shift. They were taken to the hospital, where one of the wounded women died.

The Organization of the Revolutionaries of Egypt [munazzamat thuwar misr] announced a short while ago that it was responsible for the incident. It distributed a statement to news agencies in Cairo condemning the presence of an Israeli pavilion at the Cairo fair. The declaration said that the organization's armed Nasirite vanguards had retaliated for giving Israel a pavilion at the Cairo International Fair. According to the statement they had done so by dispatching those whom it described as members of Israeli intelligence supervising the Israeli pavilion.

Investigation Continues

NC201300 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — Witnesses of the incident involving four Israelis outside Cairo International Fair yesterday noted the number of the car used. This number belongs to a GMC pick-up truck owned by an oil company based in Alexandria. This means that the registration plates are stolen.

Meanwhile, the public prosecutor has asked that the car in which the Israelis were riding — a Peugeot with diplomatic license plates — should be left at the site of the incident until the investigation into the matter, including the forensic expert's examination, is concluded. The public prosecutor is still conducting investigations at the Cairo International Fair police station to find the culprits, who possibly used a blue Mercedes car.

Spokesman Denounces Shooting

NC201312 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1238 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] An official Foreign Ministry spokesman has expressed the Egyptian Government's profound regret over and condemnation of the incident that took place outside the Cairo International Fair yesterday. As a result of this incident one woman was killed and three others employed at the Israeli pavilion in the fair were wounded.

The spokesman added that the perpetrators of this criminal action will not escape justice and that the authorities concerned will make every effort to hunt down and arrest the criminals, and take all legal measures against them.

The authorities concerned have started interrogating those persons who were near the place of the incident. Preliminary investigations confirm that the perpetrators used two vehicles, one of which intercepted the Israelis' car. The passengers of the other car fired at the Israelis' car with machineguns. A description of two of the assailants has been obtained. One is between 30 and 35 years old and the second is between 30 and 32 years old.

Assailant's Discription Issued

NC201335 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1245 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] As part of the search and investigation to discover the identity of the perpetrators of the attack against some Israelis employed at the Israeli pavilion at Cairo International Fair, the following descriptions of two of the assailants have been issued:

The first is between 30 and 35 years old. He is approximately 170 to 175 cm tall. He has a pale to ruddy complexion and a fall face. He has freckles on his face and hands, and his hair is curly and reddish. He is of robust and athletic build.

The second is between 30 and 32 years old. He is approximately 175 cm tall. He has a pale complexion and his hair is soft, fairish, and wavy at the forehead.

The Interior Ministry appeals to the citizens to help it apprehend the criminals and to inform the nearest policy station or patrolling policeman should they suspect anyone answering to these descriptions. They should also inform the police if they have any information that might help in the investigation. Those who were present at the site of the incident and saw what happened are particularly requested to come forward. Citizens can also contact the state's security investigation branches on the following telephone numbers: 355-6753 or 355-6220.

Jordan's Husayn Visits Cairo on 'Working Visit'

Talks To Focus on PLO Issue

NC191504 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — According to press reports in Cairo, Jordan's King Husayn will arrive in the Egyptian capital tomorrow, Thursday, for a working visit. He will meet with President Husni Mubarak for a discussion of the latest developments in the Palestinian issue. This examination will take place in light of recent Arab and international events.

In tomorrow's edition, the magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR* writes that Hani Al-Hasan, Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser, has come to Cairo before King Husayn. The magazine adds that he is carrying a full explanation of the Palestinian position following the recent developments in the region.

In addition, *AL-MUSAWWAR* points out that Egyptian officials have reason to hope that King Husayn's visit will be a clear contribution to narrowing the gap between Jordan and the PLO.

Husayn Arrives in Cairo

NC201004 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0958 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — King Husayn of Jordan arrived in Cairo this morning on a brief visit that will last for a few hours. He was welcomed at the airport by President Husni Mubarak.

Mubarak, Husayn Confer

NC201320 Cairo MENA in English 1240 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 20 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak held today a tete-a-tete meeting with King Husayn of Jordan. The Egyptian and Jordanian sides also held another meeting attended by Premier Dr 'Ali Lutfi, Deputy Premier and Defence and Military Production Minister Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, and First Foreign Undersecretary and Director of the President's Office for Political Affairs Dr Usamah al-Baz.

The Jordanian side to the talks included Premier Zayd al-Rifa'i, Minister of Court 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, head of the Royal Court Marwan al-Qasim, and Jordanian Ambassador here Husayn Hamami.

Further on Visit by PRC President Li Xiannian

Bilateral Agreements Signed

NC191848 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1740 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — Egypt and the PRC signed a program today covering the implementation of a bilateral cultural cooperation agreement for the years 1986 through 1988. In addition they signed the letters exchanged on political consultations held between senior Egyptian and Chinese foreign ministry officials concerning international issues of common concern. The notes also deal with the visits paid by competent foreign affairs officials from both countries to review and analyze various problems.

The program and letters were signed by Ambassador Muhammad Wafa' Hijazi, Egypt's assistant foreign minister, and by PRC Vice Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan.

The goal of the program for bilateral cooperation is to increase coordination in the fields of culture, arts, information, youth affairs, sports, and education, and to exchange scholarships and teachers of the Arabic and Chinese languages. It also seeks to strengthen Egyptian-Chinese cooperation in the area of health, and to share expertise in order to establish a factory that will produce artificial kidneys in Egypt.

Li Receives Lutfi

NC192005 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1948 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text]Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — Chinese President Li Xiannian received Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi tonight at the Presidential Palace in Al-Qubbah.

Li Leaves for Luxor

NC200732 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0655 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text]Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — Chinese President Li Xiannian concluded his official visit to Egypt this morning. An official farewell ceremony took place at the Al-Qubbah Palace.

Presidents Husni Mubarak and Li Xiannian stood on the balcony of the Presidential Palace as a band of the presidential guard played the Chinese and Egyptian national anthems. The two presidents then went downstairs and the Chinese president shook hands with wellwishers, including People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi, Consultative Council Speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, the deputy prime ministers, and other ministers. Governor of Cairo Yusuf Sabri Abu Talib, the commanders of the main branches of the Armed Forces, and Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, were also on hand to see the Chinese president off.

Four children then presented bouquets to President Li Xiannian and Mubarak and to their wives, after which the two presidents reviewed a guard of honor. Afterward, the important Chinese guest and President Mubarak were driven in a motorcade to Cairo Airport, from where the Chinese president will leave for Luxor on a private 3-day visit.

Mubarak Hopes for Tabah Formula in Current Talks

NC191435 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text]Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has expressed his hopes that a formula for referring the Tabah issue to arbitration will be arrived at during the current round of talks, and that no further talks will be necessary for this purpose. President Mubarak was responding to foreign correspondents after his meeting with the economic group today.

The president was asked whether a formula for arbitration has been reached. He said: I have not received any such formula. The Israeli and Egyptian delegations are still negotiating. Asked about a deadline for the conclusion of the Tabah talks, President Mubarak replied: We are not committed to a certain set date. We are only committed to our objectives. Replying to a question on whether King Husayn will visit Cairo tomorrow, President Mubarak said: Tomorrow we will see. We will talk on the phone today.

Tabah Talks Resume

NC192021 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2003 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — The Egyptian and Israeli delegations resumed their talks on the Tabah problem tonight. U.S. representatives also took part in the 2-hour session. Counsellor Mahmud 'Uthman, the spokesman for the Egyptian delegation, said that points related to the problem of using international arbitration to settle the Tabah issue are still being discussed. The talks will resume tomorrow morning.

Mubarak Receives Israeli Tourism Minister

NC200942 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] President Husni Mubarak received Israeli Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir this morning. Egyptian Tourism Minister Dr Fu'ad Sultan and Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sason attended the meeting.

Mubarak Outlines 'Principles' of Economic Decisions

NC191622 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Following President Mubarak's meeting today with the members of the economic group, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said the president laid down six principles to which the government should be committed in tackling our economic problems and meeting the shortage of resources. These principles are:

1. A commitment to the objectives of the development plan; maintenance of increasing rates of production; a determination to abide by the schedules drawn up for productive and service projects; and to make the necessary funds for investment available according to plan. This should be accompanied by the further rationalization of the new budget without affecting salaries, wage increases, or employee incentives.

2. To achieve social justice among the public by establishing a balanced wage structure and an equal sharing of responsibilities.

3. To take no measure or make no decision that would affect those with low incomes or raise the price of basic commodities.

4. Those who can must, within the limits of their income and ability, bear the burden in terms of the services they receive.

5. To avoid any ban or prohibition on the import of certain goods without reference to tariffs, provided that our national products are taken into account. Any change in customs duties should have absolutely no impact on basic goods or foodstuffs.

6. All economic decisions must be based on an in-depth study so that the problem may be dealt with and solved. The facts should be laid out for the public.

Al-Sharif added that President Mubarak touched on the various steps taken and decisions made in this context. The president noted that these decisions should be referred to the Cabinet for discussion and an opinion.

The information minister concluded by saying that the Cabinet is expected to meet early next week to examine the studies that are currently being prepared on the basis of these six principles.

UAE Leader Sends Message to Mubarak

NC201056 Cairo MENA in English 1006 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 20 (MENA) — Shaykh Hamdan Ibn Zayid, United Arab Emirates foreign undersecretary and director of the football union, said that he conveyed a verbal message from head of the UAE Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan to President Husni Mubarak during their meeting today.

Following his meeting with the president, the UAE official said that he will attend during his visit to Egypt due to run till Monday the finals of the African Cup championship tomorrow.

Vice-Admiral 'Ali Jad Meets French Counterpart

NC191539 Cairo MENA in English 1415 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Alexandria, March 19 (MENA) — The Commander of the Naval Forces, Vice-Admiral 'Ali Jad, conferred here today with his visiting French opposite number, Yves Leonardth [spelling as received], on means of boosting cooperation in the various fields. The meeting was attended by the French delegation accompanying Admiral Leonardth and a number of highranking Navy officers.

Meanwhile, the French official laid a wreath on the memorial of the unknown soldier here. He also visited the naval base in Ra's al-Tin and the Naval Forces Academy. The French official arrived here yesterday on a two-day visit.

Opposition Paper Calls for Reforms 'Immediately'

PM191715 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 11 Mar 86 pp 1,9

[Chief Editor 'Adil Husayn article: "Let's Move Immediately or Else It Is the Deluge"]

[Excerpts] It appears that the masses expected (as we ourselves did) more than President Mubarak's recent speech contained. After all that has happened and since all the political forces have unanimously agreed that the armed mutiny reflects a general social and economic crisis, the general impression that prevailed was that President Mubarak would frankly announce changes in certain policies that were the cause for the general crisis to develop the way it did.

For its part, the official media sought to raise this hope when it significantly announced that the president would meet with the Cabinet before making his speech. We believed that this was a step by the president reflecting his desire to involve the whole Cabinet in discussing the decisions reached. But the expectations and interpretations proved to be wrong. That is unless last-minute developments compelled the president to postpone what he had intended to do.

Under all the circumstances, what happened last week was an extremely serious matter — extremely serious. If the president still believes that waiting without taking action is still desirable or possible, then it is our right to declare our disargeement with this and making a move has become an urgent demand that brooks no delay. We are saying this because the ship of the political regime is carrying us all and if, God forbid, it sinks then the sea will not swallow only the government and spare the opposition.

Our loyalty to the Constitution and to the rules of democratic practice is beyond doubt because it is in our interest that this is so. We were pleased by the manner with which the presidency dealt with the situation in that, contrary to previous practices and traditions, it did not take the incidents, despite their seriousness, as a pretext to switch off lights and arrest the opponents. Rather, President Mubarak called for an end to arbitrary levelling of political accusations against the "instigators" and the "conspirators". We support this and the nation welcomes it. We also agree with what the speech said about the function of the police and its patriotic role and about the Armed Forces and their high efficiency in dealing with events. We said this in last week's issue of *AL-SHA'B* but, as we said, all this is not enough. We were expecting more and — after the analyses and explanations — we were expecting decisions.

Changing the Government Through Elections

We cite here some examples: We agree with those who praise the achievements of the democratic practices; there is no doubt that they have contribued to forming a public stand on the acts of sabotage. This is true, but it is also true that the existing democratic practice is insufficient. It could render the stand adopted by the masses vulnerable and its continuation insecure.

Democracy is not a club for prattle by the cultured. There is no harm in democracy beginning with such a thing but after such an initial step it cannot stop at that because otherwise it would turn into a disaster. Democracy is a better way of life for society and for the method of rule. If democracy fails to achieve this, its raison d'etre collapses and it comes to an end. Democracy opens doors wide to organized participation in government, both on the local level and the central level. Consequently, it opens wide a door to rectifying mistakes and taking into consideration people with various views and interests before decisions are taken and policies adopted.

What happened in our case is that we paused a long time at the prattle club that we have opened for the cultured and opened no new venues that would enable people with different views and interests to have an actual and direct influence on policies and decisions. The election laws, for example, are designed to limit participation in elections to a circle of people with special links to the ruling party. Sometimes this restriction amounts to total ban on "the aliens" as in the case of local elections and elections to the Consultative Council and sometimes it could be a quasi-ban as in the case of elections to the People's Assembly.

The matter is far more serious than a complaint we are making in order to increase the number opposition members in the various councils. What we fear and warn against is the frustration of the masses' hope in the possibility of reforms through elections. As long as changing the ruling persons through elections is impossible, then those who are harmed by the present situation and those who believe in change have no alternative but to shun the game of elections and to look for back doors and secret methods. If we observe that young people avoid being registered in the electoral register then it must be realized that this is a clear warning.

What we said about the elections law is regarded to be a fundamental cause for the political crisis threatening us. The opposition party leaders have expressed this view during their meeting with President Mubarak. We hoped that decisions would be issued and moves would be made to this end following the aggravation of the crisis.

What we said does not mean that the crisis of democracy is confined to the question of elections. Democracy in our country is being exercised in conditions that cannot be ignored; these conditions must be defined and their features pinpointed. One of these conditions is the fact that our struggle aganst tutelage is not over yet. Enemies of Arab renaissance are concentrating on weakening Egypt and striking at it in particular. This means the need to recognize a special role for the Egyptian Armed Forces in the state's higher sjategy and in the process of general political decision-making. Unless the nature of the ties between the Army and the rest of the elected and nonelected state institutions is defined, the democratic practice will remain in a state of confusion and exposed to faltering.

But putting aside what we said, the deep significance of which can be fully appreciated only by the political elite, democracy in the eyes of the ordinary citizen has other, more simple manifestations: Does the ordinary citizen find someone who listens to his complaint and take action on it? Can he discuss what has been decided on matters concerning him as so as to rectify the decision within a reasonable period of time if such a decision is unjust? Even forgetting about the general politics of international relations, the government's attitude toward the Islamic Shari'ah, and the rate of development, what about a school for his son, what about the hospital administration in his area, and his dispute — as a tenant — with the landlord (or — as a landlord — with the tenant)? How can the salaries and wages be increased in level with prices or how can he face up to a superior who is humiliating him and so on...

If the roads leading to solving any of these problems are blocked, what democracy are we talking about and what use is the advice to go through the proper channels if the government organizations are tyrannical and nongovernment organizations (associations, trade unions, and federations) are impotent or headed by a minister or someone similar? Will the ordinary people with needs to be attended to listen to us if we continue to reiterate to them words that neither make them rich or satisfy their hunger. At best they will accuse us of being ignorant or collaborating with those doing them an injustice. This is something that we utterly reject.

We demand, in the name of the people, a change in the present conditions with a view to expanding actual participation in political and social action. We were hoping that the president's speech would contain something to this effect that would reassure us.

The government is now telling us about its desire to improve the living conditions of the Central Security Forces. If this were to happen then there are other bodies similar to that of the Central Security whose conditions require similar improvement. The fact is that the various categories employed in the government and public sector (beginning with the highest levels) are now demanding this. How will the government be able to meet such obligation in these circumstances? The continuation of the present situation prevents an increasing the state revenues. In fact the revenues are going to drop because of the drop in the oil prices. Therefore, an increase in salaries and wages could only mean a tremendous increase in the budget deficit, printing more banknotes, and higher prices.

The situation calls for real increase in the state budget revenues so that the budget may be able to meet its obligations toward those working in the field of defending the country and its security and those employed in production and services. This means rectifying the balance between the income of those employed in the government sector and those employed outside it. More precisely, the matter calls for a real transfer of wealth from the income of those who can afford it, rather from those who cannot afford it, in order to meet their legitimate and national obligations. Enriching the state coffers (through taxes and appropriate economic policies) is a matter that brooks no delay if we want to overcome the crisis.

In this regard, too, we were expecting clear decisions but our hope has been frustrated. It appears that the matter really calls for a study of the method of decision making in Egypt and of the reasons for delaying things that cannot be delayed.

Syrian Charges on Damascus Bombing Rejected

JN191810 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1738 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Mar (INA) — Iraq has affirmed that it could not have contemplated any harm to its brothers, the sons of Syria who are in solidarity with Iraq in the just war it is waging against Iran.

This came in a comment by the spokesman of the Iraqi Ministry of Culture and Information today in reply to the Syrian regime's claims holding Iraqi organs responsible for the explosions that took place in Damascus several days ago.

The spokesman said: One is greatly confused as to how to explain the reasons behind these Syrian claims at this particular time. Everyone knows that the Syrian regime is facing all-out condemnation by the Syrian Arab people and the entire Arab nation for its traitorous stand on the Iranian aggression against Iraq and all its traitorous stands.

The spokesman affirmed that lofty Iraq, the home of brave men, does not use cowardly, but rather direct, methods even when dealing with traitors and plotters.

The spokesman added: The Damascus rulers, who are immersed in evil and who have spilled the blood of the Syrian people and killed tens of thousands of women and children in Hamah, do not hesitate to fabricate a dastardly operation of this type in their desperate attempts to divert attention from their stinking treason and scandals.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Communique No 2,155

JN191740 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,155 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 19 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With firm faith in God and principles, a morale that is reinforced daily, an exemplary performance, and great enthusiasm for duty, the soldiers of justice continue their combat missions to cleanse the land and annihilate the aggressors. The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today.

1. On the VII Army Corps front: Our victorious forces in the VII Army Corps front continue to inflict heavy losses on the remnants of the aggressors in the narrow enclave in the Al-Faw peninsula and to subject them to heavy fire from the Air Force, the Navy, artillery, armor, and other weapons.

2. At 0750 [0450 GMT] today, 46 planes from our heroic Air Force together swooped down on military concentrations between the cities of Hamidiyeh and Ahvaz that the enemy had prepared for aggression against our country. The enemy throught that it could use these concentrations to carry out its mean designs. He did not know that our eagles were lying in wait for him. They attacked these concentrations with heavy bombs and missiles, destroying the following targets and burying the scorched bodies of the Khomeyniites under their debris: a. some 601 tents and trailers including enemy soldiers and commanders; and b. 46 tanks and armored cars. Having made sure that they had left nothing undamaged, our eagles returned safely with their planes to the homeland. Our thanks and praise to you, O heroes of our Air Force — command, eagles, officers, and men. May God reward you for your good deeds for your people.

3. Our planes carried out 218 combat missions against enemy concentrations and supply lines on all fronts, inflicting on the aggressors heavy losses in personnel, arms, ammunition, and equipment. Squadrons of our planes also launched a devastating raid on factory-19 for technical war industries near Ahvaz at 1615 [1315 GMT] today, destroying it completely and comprehensively. At 0838 [0538 GMT] today, our planes carried out a successful raid on Khark Island. Having carried out these missions, the planes returned safely to their bases, God be praised.

4. The heroes of the helicopter gunships inflicted heavy losses on the remnants of aggressors during 106 combat missions. The heroes returned safely to their bases, God be praised.

5. Our fighters in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah killed four enemy soldiers and destroyed an ammunition dump, an infantry position, and a machinegun emplacement.

6. The criminal enemy shelled the outskirts of Mandali with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 March 1986

'Large' Maritime Target Hit

JN200949 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0945 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Mar (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes carried out an air raid against a large maritime target near the Iranian coast this morning, scoring an accurate and effective hit. A military spokesman told INA that the maritime target was hit at 0910 [0610 GMT] today and that all Iraqi planes returned safely to base.

Maritime Targets Hit, Bridge Destroyed

JN201019 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0955 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi Navy has dealt blows to a new bridge in Abadan Tappeh, to two large maritime targets, and to a third very large maritime target near the Iranian coast. All Iraqi naval units safely returned to base. An Iraqi Military spokesman told INA that the first blow, against a bridge the Iranian forces had established in Abadan Tappeh, took place at 0055 [2155 GMT 19 March] today, destroying it. The spokesman said the second blow was against two large maritime targets near the Iranian coast and took place at 0139 [2239 GMT 19 March] today, scoring accurate and effective hits. The spokesman said the third blow was against a very large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 0140 [2240 GMT 19 March] today, scoring an accurate and effective hit.

Third Maritime Target Hit

JN201252 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1240 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With God's help and the zealous mens ditermination, our giant Air Force planes dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 1135 [0835 GMT] today and safely returned to base.

This is the second target that our valiant eagles destroyed today. Thus, the total number of maritime targets that our eagles and the lions of the sea destroyed today amounts to 5 targets.

May God bless the valiant men. We thank God for His victory.

[Dated] 20 March 1986

Lloyds: Liberian Tanker Hit

JN201132 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1125 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] London, 20 Mar (INA) — The British Lloyd's insurance company has stated that the Liberian tanker *Atlanticos* was hit by a missile this morning while it was near Khark Island. In a cable to the INA office in London a short while ago, Lloyd's said the oil tanker was set on fire. Lloyd's added that the tanker, which weighs 122,248 metric tons and was built in 1974, is operated by (Casus) Company Limited, headquartered in London.

Jets Attack Shadegan

JN201529 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1517 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our heroic Air Force, which continues to pursue enemy remnants, makes its daily attacks on vital enemy installations that are closely linked to the war effort. At 1300 [1000 GMT] today, our planes launched a violent raid on the television relay stations in the Shadegan area, scoring accurate hits and destroying them. At 1304 today other planes launched a raid on the Shadegan gas station, destroying it and setting it ablaze.

After carrying out these two duties, the brave eagles returned safely and triumphantly to the homeland, praised be God.

[Dated] 20 March 1986

Birri Refuses King Hassan's Invitation to Conference

NC200751 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Informed diplomatic sources have noted that Morocco has joined in the current efforts to unravel the knots in which the Lebanese situation is entangled. Moroccan King Hassan II has personally invited Minister Nabih Birri to attend the justice ministers conference that will convene in Morocco. Informed political sources say that the Moroccan king has tried hard to persuade Minister Birri to respond to the invitation in order to bring about a relaxation of political tension in Lebanon. However, Minister Birri has told the Moroccan ambassador in Beirut that he will not be able to attend the conference. Birri is sending the Justice Ministry secretary general to represent Lebanon at the Conference.

Al-Husayni Leaves for Conference in Morocco

NC191251 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni left Beirut at noon today for Morocco, via Paris. He is leading a delegation comprising Deputies Zaki Mazbudi and Fu'ad Al-Tahini; Ihsan Abu Khalil, the secretary general of the Chamber of Deputies; adviser 'Adnan Nadir; and Ahmad Qubaysi. The delegation will participate in the parliamentary conference for Arab-African dialogue, which will begin in Rabat on Friday and will last about 3 days.

Speaker Al-Husayni is expected to deliver a speech to this conference on the general situation in Lebanon, and will examine what the African group can do to assist Lebanon in liberating the south from the Israeli enemy, given that Israel is considered an enemy to both the Arab and African causes.

Papal Envoy Giatti Returns to Vatican

NC200838 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0815 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Monsignor Giatti left Lebanon this morning for the Vatican via Larnaca. He was seen off by the apostolic administrator Bishop Ibrahim al-Hilu and Luciano Angeloni, the papal nuncio in Lebanon. It has been learned that Monsignor Giatti is scheduled to return to Lebanon after the Easter holidays to continue his mission.

Strike Force Begins Deployment in West Beirut

NC191523 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The strike force has begun to deploy in its five assigned positions in accordance with the resolution adopted by the West Beirut National Action Committee. At 0900 today, a mechanized unit consisting of 200 men and 9 vehicles set out from the first post in Al-Rawshah, which is the group's headquarters, toward its second position in Karakas. Deployment in the three remaining positions — the Holiday Inn, Qasqas, and the stadium — will take place today.

The force that has moved into Karakas includes members of the Progressive Socialist Party, the Amal Movement, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, the Arab Democratic Party, the Lebanese Communist Party, and the Arab Socialist Union — the Nasirite Organization.

Agreement by Pro-'Arafat Groups, Hizballah, IUM

NC191242 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1145 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] According to diplomatic sources in Beirut, the pro-'Arafat Palestinian groups made an agreement with Hizballah and the Islamic Unification Movement [IUM] late last month. The same sources added that the purpose of this agreement is to strengthen the power of these three parties, to enable them to confront the Amal Movement and other leftist parties in West Beirut. It is reported that the three factions have formed a joint coordination committee to allocate their various military responsibilities.

Further on Fighting in Beirut, Al-Matn Areas

Fighting, Snipers Reported

NC191444 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Fighting has been going on for some time now along the commercial markets combat line as far as Sodeco, Ra's al-Nab', and Al-Tayyunah. Shells have reportedly been fired at Corniche Bisharah al-Khuri from Sodeco and at Ra's al-Nab' from Dar al-Tawlid. Clashes are also taking place on the Museum-al-Barbir combat line, and 12.7-mm weapons are being used.

We were informed a short while ago that snipers in Primo are shooting at Bisharah al-Khuri. The crossing points between the two parts of Beirut are passable despite the fact that the latest flare-ups have made things rather risky. The members of the security committee are trying to deal with the situation.

Cease-Fire in Beirut

NC191746 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Following contacts with the leaders concerned, the Central Security Committee reached a comprehensive cease-fire agreement for the combat lines in the capital and its southern suburb. The accord took effect at 1800 today.

Apart from two shells that struck the Cola-Al-Tariq al-Jadidah area at 1750 — 10 minutes before the scheduled cease-fire — compliance with the agreement began precisely at 1800. A guarded calm prevails along the combat lines this evening.

Various types of weapons were used in some earlier fighting that took place in the commercial center and reached Al-Tayyunah. According to sources on the Security Committee, all crossing points between the two sectors of the capital have been closed, including the one linking Al-Kafa'at and Al-Murayjah in the southern suburb.

The bodies of two women have been taken to the American University Hospital. One of the girls, Dunya Nur al-Din, was killed by sniper fire in Al-Shiyah. The other, Fatnah Muhib al-'Adlah, was killed when a shell hit her family's home in Al-Khandaq al-Ghamiq. Fu'ad al-'Azzah, his wife, and their children, Usamah, Lina, and Zaynah, were wounded. Another woman, Jumana al-Muqallid, was also injured, and was brought to the American University Hospital. Hasan 'Akkush was wounded on Bisharah al-Khuri Street and taken to the Al-Barbir Hospital.

At approximately 1615, two shells were fired at Al-Bastah from the east, causing a number of casualties. Those affected were immediately taken to the American University Hospital.

Amal, Hizballah Gunmen Clash

NC191809 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Machineguns and rockets were employed in the fighting that pitted members of Amal against gunmen from Hizballah in Al-Bastah and Al-Nuwayrah [West Beirut] between 1700 and 1745 today. The clashes reportedly began when a Hizballah group set up a mortar in the area. A house occupied by a woman and her three children was hit.

Al-Matn Area Under Shellfire

NC200711 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] It was reported from northern Al-Matn a short while ago that at 0730 today Army posts and residential areas in 'Ayn al-Tuffahah and Al-Qaysariyah were subjected to artillery and rocket fire from positions held by Syrian Social Nationalist Party gunmen and their allies in Shrin and Shwayya hills. Security sources said that the villages of 'Ayn al-Tuffahah, Al-Qaysariyah, and Dulb in the Bikfayya area were still coming under shellfire at 0820. The Shrin and Shwayya 82-and 120-mm mortar and flat-trajectory weapon emplacements are being used in the shelling.

Airport Lighting Equipment Stolen

NC192043 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Middle East Airways [MEA] has announced the cancelation of its scheduled flight from Beirut to Kuwait this evening. It has done so in accordance with a decision made by the General Directorate of Civil Aviation in coordination with MEA to discontinue night flights. This follows the theft of lighting cables on the western runway by unidentified individuals 2 days ago, making take-off operations at night impossible. Some 700 meters of cable were stolen and it will take 15 days to lay new ones.

Further on Israeli, 'Resistance' Clashes in South

Shelling Damages Israeli Tank

NC191054 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] A resistance group used 107-mm rockets to shell Birkat Risha at dawn today. The position under fire took direct hits, which killed those manning it. Immediately afterward, helicopters evacuated the victims to the occupied Arab territories and the area was raked with heavy-caliber machinegun and tank fire.

The faithful resistance groups have also claimed responsibility for the destruction of an Israeli tank in (Tallat al-Ahmadiyah). The tank was enticed into the area and a mine was detonated, badly damaging the tank and killing the crew. This tank was used to shell the town of Qaniyah after each resistance operation in western Al-Biqa'.

In another development, and for the second time in the last 4 days, the occupation forces shelled the town of Yuhmur from their positions in the Burghu triangle today. A number of houses were damaged in the shelling.

3 Killed by Mine

NC191821 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Petro Na'san, Ghassan Krikorian, and Ilyas Mushantif, from the village of Al-Bramiyah, were killed this afternoon when a mine exploded on the Tall al-Nuhas Road inside the security zone.

Amal Checks Israeli Advance

NC201020 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Israeli forces besieged the township of Haris today. They attempted to advance toward the town at 0830, but their advance was checked by an Amal Movement group. Violent battles raged between the two sides. There have been no reports on losses so far. At 1045, the Israeli forces again tried to enter Haris. Amal Movement groups repulsed the attempt and are now preventing the Israeli forces from achieving their objectives.

Reportage on Cairo Attack on Embassy Employees

Names Released; Officials Comment

TA200522 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Eti Tal'or, the wife of an Israeli Embassy employee, was killed in the shoot-out in Cairo, and another three Israelis — a woman and two men — were wounded. An organization called the Revolutionaries of Egypt has claimed responsibility for the attack in an announcement issued to Western news agencies. This organization had also claimed responsibility for two previous attacks against Israeli diplomats in Cairo.

Reports from Cairo said that the assailants used their car to block the path of the vehicle in which the Israeli diplomats were driving, and they attacked them from another car. The victims were rushed to a nearby hospital. A special aircraft left Israel for Cairo last night with physicians from the Tel Hashomer Hospital.

Reporters in Cairo have reported that Avraham Tamir, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, and Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche, who were in Cairo for the Tabah talks, visited the injured.

Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir, who is visiting Cairo, told our correspondent Menahem Friedman that he will continue with the planned talks but he has canceled his tours of tourist sites. He added that if he had canceled the entire visit, he would have given the assailants exactly what they wanted.

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres expressed deep shock and said he expects to get the details of the murder. He also expressed his conviction that the perpetrators of the act will be caught and duly punished.

Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir expressed the hope that the Egyptian security forces will take stiffer measures to guarantee the well-being of Israelis in Cairo.

Peres: Dialogue To Continue

TA200957 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0948 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says that the terrorists trying to cripple peace in the Middle East will not dictate to Israel what efforts toward peace it should make. We will continue the dialogue with Egypt regardless of all the pain because there is no alternative. We will likewise not give up on the Jordanian opportunity, the prime minister said.

I hope, Shim'on Peres added, that the Egyptian Government will take all the necessary measures to capture the perpetrators of the act and bring them to trial, and will also prevent the recurrence of such incidents. Mr Peres added that Israel's response to the forces that desire war in the Middle East is a strong defense establishment which is confident and modern. Shim'on Peres made these remarks in Tel Aviv about an hour ago at a meeting of Labor Party veterans.

Further Peres Remarks

TA201136 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has referred to the incident in Cairo while addressing the Labor Party veterans conference. Let us hear excerpts of his statements:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] In spite of the tragedy of the grave event in Cairo last night, the prime minister said, people must not forget that saying the word peace necessitates a constant struggle against Middle Eastern peace-hating elements.

[Peres] It is not surprising that there are terrorists and organizations who want to ignite a huge blaze in the Middle East by way of terrorism, murder, and violence. They will not dictate to us our efforts toward peace. We hope to achieve peace not because of, but in spite their opposition, despite the assassinations.

[Correspondent] I believe, the prime minister said, that the Egyptian Government led by President Mubarak continues to regard peace as the correct alternative for Egypt and the Middle East. We know he is operating under constraints.

[Peres] Like us, he must eliminate violence which has been trying to threaten the hope for peace in our region. I am hopeful that the Egyptian Government will take all the measures necessary to capture and try the assailants, and take all the means necessary to ensure that such incidents do not recur. It is that government's responsibility and duty.

[Correspondent] It is necessary to bear in mind, the prime minister said, that the real victim of terrorism is the Arab world itself.

[Peres] Some of the Arab world leaders are trapped by fear, paralyzed by their fear for their lives, and do not know where to go. The Palestinian tragedy is the result of terrorism, not the other way round. From the mufti through 'Arafat to Abu Nidal, Hawatimah, and Habash — these are the ones who turn the Palestinian problem into an insoluble problem. Those who are afraid of them are the victims of this intimidation campaign. [end recording]

Mubarak Pledges Commitment to Peace

TA201044 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1038 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak told Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir in Cairo that despite the murderous attack, Egypt will continue to improve ties with Israel.

The tourism minister told reporters in Cairo that in the course of their meeting, the Egyptian president repeatedly emphasized his commitment to peace with Israel.

The Egyptian president invited Minister Sharir to meet him this morning after last night's attack on the Israeli pavilion in Cairo.

Further Mubarak Remarks

TA201111 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Egypt is lifting all restrictions on its trade and tourism relations with Israel. In the near future, Israel will enjoy a status similar to that of other countries in the trade and tourism spheres. These remarks were made this morning by President Husni Mubarak during a talk with Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir. Minister Sharir told our correspondent Menahem Friedman that President Mubarak is committed to the Camp David accords, and will continue efforts to strengthen peace.

Egyptian Minister Expresses Regret

TA200529 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres here in Jerusalem expressed deep shock at the murder, and said he was sure that those responsible would be caught and brought to justice. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir expressed the hope that the Egyptian security authorities would take vigorous steps to ensure the safety of all Israelis in Cairo. The attack was also condemned by the Egyptian tourism minister:

[Begin Sultan recording] Well, to start with, I would like to pay my deepest sympathy and condolences for what has happened, especially for the young lady who passed away. Again, one can just see that the main intention is to damage the relations between the two countries, and the main intention is to pull back the legs of egypt in the hostilities existing in the area. And, the third one is to hit severely again tourism to Egypt, being one of the main potential of foreign currency earnings to the Egyptian economy in the short run. [end recording]

Objective Not Tourism Minister

TA200828 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Mar 86 pp 1, 9

[Report by Cairo correspondent Ma'ayana Shenhar, Shefi Gabay, Refa'el Mann, and Yosef Walter]

(Excerpt] Yitzhaq Bar-Moshe, the spokesman of the Israeli Embassy in Cairo, last night denied reports by several foreign news agencies that the objective of the attack was to hit Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir and his entourage. Bar-Moshe said that Sharir and his entourage left the fairgrounds a long time before the attack took place.

Tourism Minister Curtails Visit

TA201310 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir is cutting short his visit to Egypt and will return to Israel this evening. Our correspondent Aharon Barne'a reports that the directors general of the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry who completed another round of the Tabah talks will be returning with him. Minister Sharir today concluded his talks with President Mubarak, the Egyptian prime minister, and the tourism minister. The visit to tourism sites was canceled as a result of the attack on the Israelis last night near the site of the International Fair in Cairo.

Schiffer: Tabah Talks Affected

TA200539 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres last night expressed deep shock over the murder in Cairo, and added that he expects to receive the details of the attack. He added that he is praying that the wounded will recover. Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said last night that this is a serious incident -- a third time official Israeli representatives have been attacked in Cairo; we expect the authorities in Egypt to step up security so that such incidents do not recur. I hope, Mr Shamir said, that the measures leading to the capture of the attackers of this horrendous deed will be taken and the assailants will be punished.

One must bear in mind some facts regarding these incidents: In less than one year, three attacks have been perpetrated against Israeli representatives in Egypt and for the second time the incident ended in the death of an Israeli. Another point to be emphasized is that so far, the perpetrators of these deeds have not been captured. The Israeli representatives in Cairo have become targets for extremist elements there.

Political sources in Jerusalem told us this morning that the talks on Tabah and all the other issues that are currently being debated and that have to do with bilateral issues should continue. These incidents should not be allowed to halt this process. At the moment, a large delegation headed by Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche and Avraham Tamir, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, is in Cairo, where it will remain for talks on Tabah until this evening.

Perhaps one more matter that should be highlighted in this context is that no doubt the murder will affect the Inner Cabinet's debate on Tabah, scheduled for as early as next week, as the issue of the arbitral compromis has developed. Despite the claima by political circles that the attack has no effect on the Tabah talks, certainly these talks will be tarnished somewhat by these events in Cairo.

Rabin Cautions Syria Against Self-Delusion

TA191131 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] The defense minister says that Syria has not achieved strategic parity with Israel, and its leaders will only be deluding themselves if they believe they can overpower the IDF. However, history has taught us that the Arab leaders' reasoning is not always on the same wave length as ours, and they might be drawn into wars from which they will emerge defeated.

The defense minister added that Syria is on the verge of an economic crisis. Almost daily there are extended electric power cuts in all its cities and its foreign currency reserves have plunged to a 20-day low level. However, this has not prevented President al-Asad from continuing to build up his army and he is demanding his people make sacrifices so that his determination to achieve a strategic balance with Israel will not be hindered. Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli reports that Minister Rabin was addressing the Knesset in reply to motions to the agenda regarding the Syrian president's threats.

Force 17 Claims Responsibility for Jerusalem Car Bomb

NC200932 Paris AFP in English 0919 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Beirut, March 20 (AFP) — The Force 17 Group, which provides bodyguards to Palestinian Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, has claimed responsibility for a car bomb which exploded in Jerusalem early Thursday killing one person and wounding three others.

Israeli police had suggested the bomb was part of a inter-gang rivalry and said all the casualties had criminal records.

In a call to a Western press agency Force 17 said the Zafir al-Masri group — named after the recently murdered mayor of the West Bank town of Nabulus — carried out the attack in the poor Katamon area of Jerusalem "leaving dead and wounded."

Two Gaza Strip Residents Murdered 19 Mar

TA191605 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1550 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Our military correspondent is passing on the following report: Two residents of Khan Yunus in the Gaza Strip were murdered at noon. They were shot in the office which belongs to one of the victims. The murderers, apparently two in number, arrived in a private car, entered the office in the heart of the town, and fired bullets at close range. One died instantly; the other died of his wounds several hours later.

Our military correspondent Gay Zohar notes that the security forces launched searches and an investigation. Roadblocks have been erected.

'Terrorists' Admit to Murders

TA192015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] This evening the murder mystery of two Khan Yunus residents was solved. The security forces in area captured two terrorists who admitted to the murder. They also handed over the weapons they used. It has been reported that incident was based on the suspicion that the two people murdered had collaborated with the Israeli Administration.

A few minutes ago the IDF spokesman announced that two rooms in which the assassins had been living had been demolished by the security forces.

ASL Soldier, 3 Civilians Killed By Bombs

TA191815 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] A soldier from the army of southern Lebanon (ASL) and three civilians were killed in two terrorist attacks today in southern Lebanon. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht report that the ASL soldier was killed when he was trying to dismantle a katyusha rocket which had been discovered near the village of Al-'Ayshiyah. A roadside bomb exploded near the Beaufort Castle when a car passed the site. The car fell into a nearby ravine and its three Lebanese passengers were killed.

IDF Soldier 'Slightly' Wounded Near Nabulus

TA191640 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] This afternoon an IDF soldier was slightly wounded in a stone-throwing incident near the Balatah refugee camp near Nabulus. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the soldier was wounded by splinters of broken glass from window of the truck in which he was riding. He was treated on the spot. The security forces are investigating.

Former Ramallah Mayor Returns From Jordan

TA191540 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Former Ramallah Mayor Nadim al-Zarru, who hastily left his town following the murder of Nabulus Mayor Zafir al-Masri, returned to it secretly this past Sunday. However, he is avoiding questioning by journalists.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that Al-Zarru had been considered as one of the candidates for the Ramallah mayoralty, but after the Al-Masri murder he promptly declared that he had never supported the appointment of territory residents for the municipalities, following which statement he left for Jordan.

Denies Amman Visit

TA191555 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 19 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by special *AL-QUDS* correspondent]

[Text] Ramallah — Nadim al-Zarru has announced that he has not presented any official request to the responsible authorities on the possibility of assuming the mayoralty of Ramallah municipality. He said that consultations were held among the town's residents to discuss the current situation and particularly, that of the municipality, and that these consultations resulted in the decision that it was necessary to hold elections to choose a municipal council.

On the other hand, Al-Zarru denied an Israel radio report yesterday that he had returned from Amman secretly, and said: I am a citizen of Ramallah and have been residing in the town continuously.

Arab Mayors To Be Appointed to Three W. Bank Towns

TA200943 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Benny Morris]

[Text] The government intends to simultaneously appoint three leading West bank notables in "a few weeks' time" as mayors of Hebron, Ramalah and Al-Birah, cabinet sources told *THE JERUSALEM POST* yesterday. The simultaneous appointment is in line with requests from the candidates and with a high-level Israeli decision following the assassination of Nabulus mayor Zafir al-Masri. The three mayors will probably be Jamil al-Tarifi in Al-Birah, Dr. Muhammad al-Ja'abari in Hebron and 'Adil Qassis in Ramallah.

The government decision to appoint the three men followed talks with leading West Bank notables, including one or more of the candidates, who firmly opposed holding elections for mayor. The notables argued that elections would be marked by terrorist intimidation, and the results would not necessarily reflect the will of the majority of the inhabitants of the territories.

Defence Minister Rabin and, to a lesser extent, Prime Minister Peres are known to oppose elections, as the election of anti-Husayn extremists would be a major obstacle to any interim arrangement with Jordan -- which is one of the government's main intermediate aims. The government is delaying the appointments for a few weeks to allow more time to elapse after the Al-Masri killing. Observers think it likely that Hafiz Tuqan, the acting mayor of Nabulus, would also agree to a permanent appointment after the three others take office.

Mustafa 'Abd al-Nabi al-Natshah, dismissed mayor of Hebron, was denied permission to leave the West Bank last week to attend a conference in Saudi Arabia of the Arab Cities' Organisation, it was learned last night. A source in the military government said that Al-Natshah had asked to attend to the conference as "mayor of Hebron." Since he is not the mayor, the source said, the request was "irrelevant." The mayors of Bethlehem, Bayt Jalah, Bayt Sohur and Jericho were not invited to the conference, Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj said last night.

W. Bank Figure Denies Accepting Hebron Mayoralty

TA191535 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 17 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by special *AL-QUDS* correspondent]

[Text] Hebron — Muhammad Rashid al-Ja'bari denied a local newspaper report that he will assume the mayoralty of Hebron municipality. He said that this report is baseless as Shmu'el Goren, coordinator of activities in the territories, informed him during a meeting on 26 February at Bet El that the Civil Administration does not want, at the moment, to appoint an Arab mayor to Hebron's municipality or to change the existing situation there.

Al-Ja'bari added that the attempt by Israeli authorities to link the issue of the municipalities to political moves and self-rule will not encourage any personality to come forward and take over the municipalities of Ramallah, Al-Birah, and Hebron.

Municipalities in Territories Request More Authority

TA191645 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Three municipalities in the territories have submitted requests to the Civilian Administration for their area of authority to be expanded. The requests were based on the grounds of natural growth and several cases in which the municipalities wish to have neighboring quarters joined to them so they can impose taxes on them.

Knesset Member (MK) Ge'ula Kohen [Tehiya] has accused the Civilian Administration in the territories of encouraging the municipalities to submit the requests. She told our correspondent Zvi Yisre'eli that this is a question of state-owned land, some of which is intended for Jewish settlement. MK Kohen describes this policy as anti-Zionism running riot. Our correspondent Arye Gus was given the explanation that, in any event, there is no question of a blow to be struck against existing or planned Jewish settlements.

UN Development Program Planned for Territories

TA191830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Israel has agreed to the opening of a permanent United Nations Development Program representation which will work to pump funds from the various UN institutions into Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District. This was announced by the coordinator of activities in the territories, Shmu'el Goren, to UN officials and officials from the U.S. Administration in Washington. Mr Goren told them that Israel will not interfere in the matter of the channeling of funds as long as Israel's security interests are not damaged. He added that Israel will not prevent the establishment of factories in the territories if their financial backing comes from Arab funds. This has been reported by our Washington correspondent Razi Barqay.

AL-QUDS Editorial Assails Territories Policy

TA191940 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 18 Mar 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Land and Peace, Not Land in Return for Peace"]

[Text] In the course of a statement by Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin he said that our problem is to search for peaceand to prove that we are not impatient and possess the necessary capability to allow us to continue our control over the occupied territories without a time limit.

From this premise Israel's problem, as described by the Israeli Defense Minister, is summarized in the search for Arab and Palestinian parties who accept whatever Israel proposes as the solution to their problems. "Peace", however, is obvious and clearly defined. Whoever wants to achieve real peace must display a desire to do so. The Arab world, including the PLO, has adopted the principle of peace through talks in an international peace conference to be attended by all the parties in the conflict.

Jordan and the PLO have, moreover, signed an agreement affirming the principle of land in return for peace. These positions are a fundamental change from all stances adopted by the Arabs since 1948. Israel, however, has refused even to consider or study these changes.

Israel desires a peace that will guarantee its permanence in the land that it occupied in 1967. When Israel talks about the search for peace, it means the search for personalities who accept the principle of land and peace, not the principle of land in return for peace, since Israel wants land and peace.

When Israel says that it has endless patience and the capability to continue control over the occupied territories, Israel means that it possesses the capability to keep the occupied territories until it finds individuals who are ready to accept the principle of separating the residents from the land and who acknowledge that the Palestinian residents are no more than a minority living on the land of greater Israel.

When Israel says that it is trying to improve the quality of life of residents of the occupied territories who are living under the occupation, it is saying that occupation can be just and fair.

For our part, we say that the lack of peace is based on concepts of material power and not on the power of justice or the desirea to achieve a just, durable, and comprehensive peace for future generations — the same generations that should be ready to pay a heavy price for these concepts.

ALGERIA

Growth of Algerian-Tunisian Cooperation Viewed

LD191356 Algiers APS in English 1114 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis, 19/03/86 (APS) — The search for rational and scientific basis able to lead to an economic integration and a permanent concertation [as received] among the two country's high officials at a higher level and in all the sectors are the main foundations for a sincere and a confident cooperation which is being daily developed between Algeria and Tunisia. Since, notably the signing of the Treaty of Fraternity and Concord in 19 March 1983, by President Chadli Bendjedid and President habib Bourguiba. [sentence as received] Since then this historic text became a source of reference and a priliveged tool of a multiform action based on fraternity, solidarity and good neighbourliness, principles to which the Islamic Republic of Mauritania adhered several months later.

The Politburo of the FLN Party which met on latest [as received] February expressed its satisfaction, a feeling that the Destourian Socialist Party shares especially, with the strong cooperation with our sisters Tunisia and Mauritania.

Moreover, the edification of the Greater Maghreb has been and still remains one of the main claims of Arab Maghreb generations since the colonialist era. The national charter affirmed and underlined that building the Greater Maghreb represents for the Algerian revolution a fundamental choice and a strategic position.

At a practical level, the Treaty of Fraternity and Concord was put into implementation through the conclusion of a series of accords and common projects whereas in bordering zones, common industries have been created in conformity with the two countries leaders firm will to make of these regions poles of development.

Other projects are to be fixed by the high level joint commission, met in its sixth session, in June 1985 in Algiers then finalized at the meeting at the end of September in the Algerian capital between the Algerian and Tunisian prime ministers Mr. Abdelhamid Brahimi and Mohamed Mzali. However, the two sides has expressed deep satisfaction with the good results this bilateral cooperation has yielded, but on the other hand, deplored the persistence of the conflict opposing Morocco and Saharan Arab Democratic Republic.

Algeria which does not believe in a sentimental, conjunctual tactic unity has since the first meeting between President Chadli Bendjedid and President Habib Bourguiba committed itself to translate the clearly stated principles in the treaty.

Resident Moroccans Pressured To Change Citizenship

LD131951 Rabat MAP in English 1210 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, Mar. 13 (MAP) — Algerian authorities resort to every means including blackmail to compel Moroccan cadres (engineers, architects, physicians) living in Algeria to take Algerian nationality, well-informed sources indicated.

The sources cited the case of an engineer who was forced, when he expressed the desire to return home, to work for five years in Algerian administration, or to pay the equivalent of five million dirhams to the Algerian state. Other Moroccan citizens presenting no interest for Algiers are treated otherwise: several means are used to harass them and force them to leave the country.

The Moroccan citizens' only comfort lies in the feelings of friendship and brotherhood vowed to them by the Algerian brotherly people most heartily wishes the normalization of relations between the two countries. [sentence as received]

As to the economic situation in Algeria, the same sources underlined that the high cost of living has reached an alarming level indicating in this respect that meat costs 100 Algerian dinars per kilo, tomatoes 40 AD, onions 50 AD, tea 40 AD. As to flour and fruits, they are merely nonexistent in the market. Faced to this alarming situation, Algerian authorities found no other way to divert attention than spread false rumours claiming that "The economic situation in Morocco was disastrous", but what a cold consolation, the sources said.

LIBYA

Further Reportage on Anti-Imperialism Conference

Address by Moro Front Leader

LD191511 Tripoli JANA in English 1415 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 9, March 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Nur al-Din Miswari, leader of Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in the Philippines in his speech in the morning session of the second international conference of the international centre has expressed the solidarity of his front with the Libyan Arab people in courageously combatting against imperialism, racism and reaction. He has denounced imperialism onslaughts to achieve its hegemony on struggling nations worldwide, calling for adopting what the leader of the revolution has laid down as regards achieving our unity and solidarity.

He also points out that USA controls the United Nations, thus it stands against the fulfillment of peace and justice in the world at large.

He, further, calls for having the speech of the leader of the revolution as a basis for the sessions of conference and also for having the proposal of establishing the Green Army to combat imperialism and the like. Moreover, he calls for adopting the proposal regarding the establishment of international centre in unified fronts for which the leader of the revolution will be its commander.

On the situation in the Philippines, Mr Miswari says that there are 10 million people displaced in this region awaiting the establishment of a unified front and they are striving against imperialism. They, he adds, have stood against Marcos until his downfall. A new administration has replaced him, but, he continues, the problems faced by his people are still unsolved. Hence, MNLF, he adds, will continue the fighting as long as the same policy still goes on in the Philippines.

Telegram Sent to Al-Qadhdhafi

LD191512 Tripoli JANA in English 1410 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli Rajab 8, March 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — On concluding its sessions the Second International Conference of the international centre has sent the leader of the revolution a telegram. It reads: "Brotherly revolutionary leader, Mu‘ammar al-Qadhdhafi greetings of revolutionary struggle.

The revolutionary forces comprising the international centre for combatting imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction and fascism from among movements, parties, progressive states and international revolutionary committees, on assembling at their second general conference on the soil of the great Al-Fateh revolution for the period 15-18 March 1986, salute you, you great leader, and salute through you the honorable and courageous stances of the great 1st September revolution, the Libyan Arab people, your leadership of world revolution and your continuing struggle for freedom worldwide.

The peoples of Martinique, [words indistinct] and Reunion have been awoken by your revolutionary voice which instigates to break our revolution, calling for the elimination of imperialism in all its various forms. Hence, your support, backing and historic stance vis-a-vis the cause of freedom. It is a correct stand upon history, bolstering the struggle of the oppressed peoples which has triumphed representing the will of these people to speed up the elimination of all phenomena of hegemony and containment. [sentence as received]

The memory of revolutionaries cherish with endearment your continuous attention to step up revolution in South America and the time you spend to plan and rationalise the serious revolutionary action in this arena.

We will transform your revolutionary calls that demand the unification of the forces to counter the enemy to bullets, wrecking the ugly face of imperialism and what it entails, for the occupation of Grenada will not go unpunished and the Sandinista revolution as is the case is a support for you in confronting fascism and terrorism. [sentence as received]

O revolutionary leader, Africa, which is proud of you as its son, will widen up the scope of the conflict with the enemy according to your directives with which we are armed upon facing the imperialist aggression, racial discrimination.

For the Kurdish nation and the Red Indian nation your calls for them to break out revolution in the face of terrorism, have strengthened in them the spirit of revolution and will firmly work to establish their free state and build their national character according to the civilised presentation which you have announced.

The Blacks in America, on seeing in your immortal dicta a flame in whose light peoples are shown the way in their holy march towards freedom, will join you in the struggle in the same trench to wreck the tottering imperialist construction.

O revolutionary leader, your revolutionary struggle against Zionism and racism has embodied a revolutionary law of the struggle to combat the capitulatory and defeatist solutions and has stepped up the sacred and legitimate struggle of the Palestinian arab people to redeem Palestine. With your unlimited support and with our arms we will bring liberation into being.

O revolutionary leader, revolution is the decisive solution to freedom. To achieve this, the question of revolution will always be a basis, let alone being the daily, weekly and monthly programme of the international revolutionary committees. [sentence as received] The forces of small nations are the international front for combatting imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction and fascism and will undertake their historic responsibilities to defend the great 1st September revolution, herald it and safeguard its socialist accomplishments.

It is on the rock of international revolution cohesion that the aggressive onslaught on Al-Jamahiriyah will be smashed. The revolution force worldwide, moreover, will always be in one trench to face up to U.S. imperialism with all its nuclear arsenals and devastating fleets. We will be by your side and under your leadership to inevitably score a victory over the enemey. International revolutionary struggle continues.

The second international conference of the international centre."

Burundi, UK Delegates' Speeches

LD191839 Tripoli JANA in English 1420 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 8, March 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The delegate of Burundi, member of the Central Committee and secretary general of the National Union Party for Progress, in his speech in the evening session, says it is high time the progressive and revolutionary forces are united, pointing out to the initiative taken by Al-Jamahiriyah to (?unify) the revolutionary forces worldwide.

The leader of the British Workers Revolutionary Party says in his speech that we should remind Reagan and Thatcher of what really took place in Vietnam, Iran and Nicaragua, for reality, he adds, is different from portraying false victories. He also points out that British imperialism has started under Thatcher launching a war against us — the workers. He emphasizes that we will revenge the Palestinians and the people of South Africa who have fallen victim to the British imperialism, pointing out the failure of U.N. in implementing its resolutions and redeeming the rights of oppressed peoples.

Vanuatu Foreign Minister Arrives in Tripoli

LD191517 Tripoli JANA in English 1419 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 9, March 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The minister of foreign affairs of Vanuatu, Mr

Sela Molisa, arrived in Tripoli yesterday afternoon on a visit to Al-Jamahiriyah.

MAURITANIA

President Receives SDAR President's Message

LD122354 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Text] This evening, Colonel Maayouia Sidi Ahmed Ould Taya received Mohamed Salim Ould Salek, general secretary for the Presidency of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR].

Following the meeting, which was attended by the government general secretary, Mohamed Salim Ould Salek made the following statement to colleague Ahmed Y'aqub:

[Begin Ould Salek recording] I had the honor of meeting with His Excellency President Maayouia Sidi Ahmed Ould Taya to whom I delivered a message from his brother President Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of SDAR and general secretary of the Polisario. The message pertains to the latest developments in our region and to questions of mutual interest.

My visit and this message fall within the framework of the relations of consultations and goodneighborliness between the SDAR and Mauritania, and also within the framework of the brotherly relations between the two peoples and countries.

Algerian Energy Minister Delivers Friendship Message

LD121915 Algiers APS in English 1024 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Text] Nouakchott, 12/2/86 (APS) — Mr. Belkacem Nabi, C.C. member, minister of energy and chemical industries was audienced yesterday in Nouakchott by Colonel Anna Amadou Babaly, member of the Military Committee of National Salvation (CMSN).

During this audience, Mr. Nabi transmitted a friendship and fraternity message from President Bendjedid to Colonel Maayouia Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya, CMSN president and Mauritanian head of state and referred to the positive results of the friendship and working visit paid in Mauritania and possibilities of the reinforcement of cooperation in fields directly or indirectly linked to the sector he is in charge of.

On this occasion, the two delegations dealt with the relations between the two countries particularly on the occasion of the achievement of the two important economic projects which constitute, according to the two sides, the solid sittings for the construction of the Great Maghreb.

On another turn, Mr Nabi was audienced on Tuesday morning by Mr Sidi Cheikh Abdellahi, interim minister of industry and mines.

Problems of cooperation in the fields of industry and mainly mines were examined.

MOROCCO

Foreign Affairs Minister Meets With GCC's Bisharah

LD191803 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] The second day of the official visit of the GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah to Morocco was marked by the working session he had this afternoon with Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali in the presence of the delegation from the GCC Secretariat. In a statement on the meeting 'Abdallah Bisharah told Radio Rabat:

[Begin Bisharah recording] I am very happy to say that we have had lengthy talks with our brother and friend, Abdellatif Filali, the Moroccan minister of foreign affairs. I have explained to his excellency conditions in the Gulf region in light of the Iranian occupation of Arab Iraqi territory and in light of the escalation taking place in our area — steps which increased tension. I have also explained to him the steps taken by the GCC members particularly on the diplomatic field. I am happy to say that I was briefed on Morocco's views regarding to these developments, which support the principle of the preservation of Arab territorial integrity in that important region.

We also touched on numerous other issues of interest to the Arab world and the Arab countries, and I have also been briefed on Morocco's views in these areas. Frankly, I am extremely happy with the positive feelings and the constructive position I have sensed during these talks. [end recording]

Commerce Minister Returns From ICO Talks in Istanbul

LD191403 Rabat MAP in English 1202 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Rabat, March 19 (MAP) — Moroccan Minister of Commerce and Industry Tahar Masmoudi returned home Tuesday evening coming from Istanbul where he had attended the second session of the OIC (Organization of Islamic Conference) permanent committee for economic and trade cooperation.

In a statement he made upon arrival, Mr. Masmoudi said participants in the committee's meeting adopted a number of recommendations aiming at consolidating inter-Islamic economic cooperation, with special emphasis on the "barter" system of commodities' exchange among Islamic countries, insurance concerning exports, eliminating customs barriers and the creation of an Islamic free zone for trade exchange.

Other recommendations, added Mr Masmoudi, dealt with the possibility of creating an Islamic information organism specialized in economic and commercial questions interesting trading and industrial firms in the Islamic world, as well as a system for long-term financing of inter-Islamic trade exchanges.

Participants also decided to conclude an agreement with Islamic countries' central banks on promoting financial cooperation and financing joint industrial projects in the Islamic world, further said Mr Masmoudi.

Protest Marks Shooting of National in Melilla

LD171456 Rabat MAP in English 1215 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Melilla, March 17 (MAP) — Nearly 2000 Moroccans took to the street Friday in Melilla (a Spanish enclave on the northern Moroccan coast) to protest the slaying of a Moroccan national by a Spanish policeman. Mr Abdelkader Baghouri was shot in the head by a policeman in this occupied city in what was described by Moroccans there as a "racist and arbitrary act". The Moroccan national was buried outside the city of Melilla which is devoid of a Moslem cemetery.

On the other hand, the leader of the Moroccan community in this enclave Mr Aomar Doudouh who was in Sevilla (southern Spain) to receive the prize of "The Association of Right and Democracy" termed "very strange" the circumstances of this incident, for, he said, the family of the victim, who is native of Melilla, was informed of this event only few hours later. Mr Doudouh questioned the official version of the incident saying that when the autopsy was carried out, the coroner turned down the request of the brother of the victim to see the corpse.

SUDAN

TMC Vice Chairman Meets With U.S. Ambassador

JN181745 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Mar (SUNA) — The United States has expressed its appreciation and thanks to the transitional government on civilian and military levels for the achievements [words indistinct] and the great democratic attainment represented in the elections for the constituent assembly. This came during the meeting today between Lieutenant General Taj al-Din 'Abdallah Fadl, vice chairman of the Transitional Military Council, and Hume Alexander, U.S. ambassador in Khartoum.

In a statement after the meeting, his excellency the ambassador said that friendly countries expressed happiness over this great democratic achievement thanks to the wisdom of the transitional government. He added that bilateral relations were also discussed during the meeting.

Anya Nya 2 Warns Ethiopia Against Supporting SPLA

JN191731 Khartoum SUNA in English 1650 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar. 19 (SUNA) — Anya Nya 2 desiring to extend invitation to Sudanese and foreign journalists to visit the previous centres of the Sudanese Peoples Liberation Army - SPLA, which are now under the full control of its Anya Nya 2 forces. [sentence as received]

In a statement released here today Anya Nya 2 reported that the journalists visit is aiming at disclosing the reality, of the so-called Sudanese People's Liberation Army which the statement said are in state of fleeing in the Upper Nile District.

The statement added that the Ethiopian regime had waged a desperate attempt to evacuate the remaining loitering about soldiers of SPLA but the Anya Nya 2 had aborted that tentative and further took captives on Mar 9 those soldiers of John Garang. [sentence as received]

Moreover the statement went on the say that some Ethiopian aircraft had parachuted a number of terrorists from the SPLA troops in a place situation between Mandrug Lowal and Tegaknat to the Ethiopian-Sudanese borders but the Anya Nya 2 troops annihilated them and then seized a large quantity of weapons.

Anya Nya 2 in its statement has warned it would not hesitate in shooting the Ethiopian planes unless the Ethiopians regime stop support to the terrorists of the SPLA forces and its agent John Garang. Our patience is running short as regards the atrocities committed by the Ethiopian regime in southern Sudan via the dissident John Garang.

Rumbek Official's Contact With Outlaws Denied

JN201036 Khartoum SUNA in English 1010 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 20 (SUNA) — An official military source yesterday denied that Rumbek commissioner had been in contact with the outlaws. The source who refuted such claims broadcast by the outlaws' radio said the commissioner, who is an Army brigadier, is still in command of his forces defending the security and integrity of Sudan.

Upper Nile Official Comments on Garang, Security

JN201054 Khartoum SUNA in English 1014 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar. 20 (SUNA) — Upper Nile acting governor yesterday announced that the people in the Upper Nile categorically reject Garang's endeavours to impose his will on the public opinion in northern and southern Sudan. Following a meeting with TMC Deputy Chairman Gen. Taj al-Din 'Abdallah the governor said people there had condemned Garang's continued attacks on civilians and his looting of their properties and they advocate dialogue for solving differences. The governor said he had stressed to Gen. 'Abdallah that security is prevailing in Upper Nile and they discussed administrative and financial problems facing the region.

SPLM, National Alliance Talks To Begin in Addis Ababa

EA191446 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The long-awaited conference between SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] and the National Alliance for National Salvation, will commence in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, tomorrow, Thursday 20th March 1986. The SPLA-SPLM delegation arrived in Addis Ababa yesterday evening led by the deputy commander in chief of the SPLA and deputy chairman of the SPLM Provisional Executive Committee, Lieutenant Colonel Carabino Kuanyin Bol, as the head of the delegation, and the deputy head of the delegation SPLA's chief of staff Lieutenant Colonel William Nuan Bany, and deputy chief of staff for administration and logistics, Major Arok Thuon Arok, who is the official SPLM-SPLA spokesman to the conference.

In a statement to Radio SPLA on their departure, the spokesman for the SPLM delegation deputy chief of staff for administration and logistics, Maj Arok Thuon Arok, said that the formation of the SPLM delegation to the conference was made in such a way to reflect the national character of the movement. He disclosed that the SPLM members to the conference comprised two members from eastern Sudan, four from western Sudan, one from northern Sudan and the rest from the south. He stressed that the formation of the delegation also puts into consideration women's representation. In this regard, Sudanese women are represented by three women in the SPLA-SPLM delegation. The spokesman revealed that the SPLA-SPLM leader, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior will attend the opening session of the conference tomorrow.

In conclusion, SPLA-SPLM spokesman to the conference, deputy chief of staff for administration and logistics, Maj Arok Thuon Arok, expressed hope that the participants will have peaceful deliberations for the stability of the country.

Radio SPLA: Delegates Named

EA200936 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The names of the SPLM-SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement-Sudanese People's Liberation Army] delegation to the SPLA-National Alliance conference are as follows: members of the High Command: Lieutenant Colonel Carabino Kuanyin Bol, head of the delegation; Lieutenant Colonel William Nuan Bany, deputy head of the delegation; and Major Arok Thuon Arok, speaker [as heard] SPLM delegation.

Civilian militants of the movement: Dr Mansur Khalid [foreign minister under Numayri]; Dr Justin Ya h Arok; Mr Muhammad Jumah Yusuf; Mr Muhammad Harun Kafi Abrar; Mr John Ruwach Jal; and Mr William Kon Dior Dut.

Members of SPLM-SPLA women's associations: Mrs Fatimah Nyawang Muhammad Abd al-Dafi; Professor Mary Daniel Kodi; and Dr Sittuna Abdullah Uthman.

Military militants of the movement: Brigadier Mat Ipo; Major Deng Aluor Kuol; Major Engineer Mag Machek; Major Peter Fanum Pany Ping; Major James Jok Ngon; Major Alfred Lado Gore; Major Pagana Amum; Captain Lual Ding Wol; Captain Simon Moridi Dumu; Captain Danile Kodi; Captain Scorpus Kenyilo Boro; Captain Professor Bari Wanji; Captain James Wani Iga; Captain Atem Yak Atem; Captain Nyal Ding Nyal; First Lieutenant Morohum Dut Kat; First Lieutenant Malik Agar; First Lieutenant Abu Bakr; and First Lieutenant Timothy Kwek Lwal.

The following is the list of the names of the members of the National Alliance for National Salvation: Dr Ahmad 'Uthman Siraj secretary general, Union of National Democratic Forces; Dr Lam Akol, secretary general, Sudanese African Congress; Dr Nazil al-Sayyid, secretary general, Islamic Socialist Party; Samuel Lupai Loila vice president, SANU [Sudanese African National Union] Party; Haydar Taha 'Abd al-Latif, Politburo, Socialist Nationalist Party; Salah al-Siddiq al-Hadi, Politburo, Ummah Party; Mudawwi Ibrahim Adam, Politburo, Socialist Labor Organization; Shawqi Malaki, Politburo, Arab Ba'th Party; Hisham Ahmad 'Abd al-Qadir, Politburo, revolutionary committees; Muhammad al-Hasan 'Ali, Politburo, Arab Ba'thist [as heard] Party, Ba'thist Sudan organisation; Muhammad 'Abd al-Hakam, Politburo, Workers and Farmers Party, Goma 'Abd al-Qadir 'Ali, Politburo, Nuba Mountains General Union; Arthur Akwen Chuol, Politburo, SSPA [Southern Sudan Political Alliance]; Muhammad Mahjub 'Uthman, general [as heard] committee, Sudanese Communist Party; Umar Muhajir Muhammadayn, Arab Ba'th Party; 'Abdallah Sirr al-Khatim, Arab Ba'th Party; Al-Hasan Ahmad Muhammad, Arab Ba'th Party; Mahmud Zarruq, NUP [National Unionist Party]; Dr Khalid Yaqi, president, Trade Union Alliance; Awad al-Karim Muhammad, secretary, Trade Union Alliance; Hasan Muhammad 'Ali, treasurer, Trade Union Alliance; Mustafa 'Abd al-Qadir, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Hasan Abu Jabal, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; 'Abd al-Raziq Daf'allah, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Hajju Yaqub, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Dr Adlan al-Hardallu, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Dr Muhammad al-Amin Muhammad, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Muddathir 'Abbas, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Al-Haj 'Uthman, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; Mrs Nimat Malik, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance.

Advance group: Dr Mamud Muhammad Husayn, vice-president, Trade Union Alliance; Mukhtar 'Uthman, General Secretariat, Trade Union Alliance; and Dr Taysir Muhammad 'Ali, special envoy, National Alliance.

Garang Attends Opening Ceremony

EA201416 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The meeting between the SPLM-SPLA and the National Alliance for National Salvation has begun in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, today, Thursday 20th March 1986. The opening ceremony was attended by the commander in chief of SPLA and chairman of Sudanese People's Liberation Movement Provisional Executive Committee, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior.

SPLA Radio: Thunder Battalion Shells Garrison 11 Mar

EA151705 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] forces of Rad [Thunder] Battalion shelled Akobo [eastern Upper Nile] Army Garrison on 11 March 1986. According to our correspondent in the area, the shelling inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy in both men and materiel.

The operation was masterminded by 1st Lieutenant Manyok Ayei Jok and 2d Lieutenant John Atem Anyet, assisted by Sergeant Major Pik Aret, Sgt Wilson Manot, Sgt Ajak Kwet Ajak and Sgt Garan Nach.

SPLA Radio: Garrison at Bor Attacked

EA182051 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Reports from Bor say (?Acuil Manyong) task force under the overall command of Major (?Akol Manyang) carried out a raid on Bor town at Lambar Garrison early this month. The enemy suffered heavy casualties in men and material.

CHAD

Radio Terms Habre-Goukouni Meeting Plan Rumor

AB182230 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Very persistent rumors have been going round these past few days over the eventuality of a meeting between the president, El Hadj Hissein Habre, and one of those protected by Al-Qadhdhafi — Goukouni Oueddei. What can one think about this meeting [words indistinct]?

The rumors persist and persist. They have been telling us of a forthcoming meeting in Brazzaville between the Government of Chad and its opponents. News, only news. They are only rumors, nothing but rumors. No official declaration has confirmed this meeting of the president of the Republic of Chad, El Hadj Hissein Habre, with the Libyan-protected Goukouni Oueddei. What is certain is that very recently, the OAU exhorted Chadians to give precedence to dialogue in the search for peace in Chad. No other specification was given on this issue and there was no question of a summit meeting on 28 March in Brazzaville.

This said, the position of the legal and legitimate government in Chad has not changed. It is what we all know: Yes, first and foremost, for dialogue with all Chadians who are really desirous of seeing our country take its place among respected countries. The Chadian Government, therefore, favors discussions which may lead to negotiations.

The recent Libreville agreements with the CAC-CDR [Action Coordination Committee-Revolutionary Democratic Council] and the FDT [Chadian Democratic Front] on the return to Ndjamena of a large number of guerrilla groups operating in the south and the return of a number of soldiers fleeing their Libyan protectors are all examples crowning the efforts made by the government toward reconciliation.

One therefore asks oneself about the success of the discussions between the government and the allies of Tripoli. In this month of March, after two offensives launched against the positions of the Chadian National Armed Forces in the north of the country, what will be the use of a face-to-face meeting between President Hissein Habre and Al-Qadhdhafi's spokesman, Goukouni Oueddei?

Undoubtedly, one can rightly say that anything can happen in politics, even the most spectacular change, but it seems evident to us that if a meeting were to take place it would go somewhat like this: The GUNT leader will formulate the Libyan conditions which he has been forced to learn by heart, proclaim an Islamic republic in Chad, sign a defense agreement between Ndjamena and Tripoli; in short, force the Chadian state to submit itself to the wishes of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's regime. The head of state, it is easy to see, will say no; and we will part and we would have spent a lot of time without settling anything. As we have already said, Chadians can understand each other, reconcile with each other, and live in harmony only if the Libyans are kept away.

But this not the case with Goukouni and his followers who are still too attached to their Tripoli trusteeship, and have no freedom of action or of thought. In this case, a summit meeting at the end March for what?

Reconciliation is being forged. We are witnesses to that. What must now be done is to strengthen it through hard and selfless work which will assure our people of their indispensable security in the area of food supplies. It is a battle which we cannot win if we do not struggle against the [words indistinct] which has been fomenting for some weeks now and which demonstrates an incomprehensible carefree attitude. It is better we do not have illusions. There will never be enough ministerial portfolios for all and there will never be a minister if nobody works. Let us therefore leave the politicians to their reflections and let us go to work. Certainly, this is the way that we can help them and it is through helping them that they will in turn help us by thinking over our problems.

Continuing Reportage on Fighting in North

Spokesman Claims Situation Calm

AB191648 Paris AFP in French 1528 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Ndjamena, 19 Mar (AFP) — According to concordant sources in Ndjamena, the situation has become calm again in the Koro Toro Region (northern Chad) after the violent clashes which on Monday opposed the government forces to Goukouni Oueddei's troops.

Meanwhile, two Chadian prisoners, who were recently captured by the Chadian National Armed Forces, were presented to the press in Ndjamena on Wednesday. According to them, the Libyans have a very large quantity of weapons in reserve, particularly tanks and heavy artillery, in north Fada and Faya Largeau. These two soldiers of the CDR (Revolutionary Democratic Council) and FAP (People's Armed Forces) stated that they belonged to the Transitional National Union Government during 3 years.

Envoy on Libyan Reaction

AB191208 Paris AFP in French 0858 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, 19 Mar (AFP) — The "bitter" setback and "heavy losses" suffered on Monday by the "enemy forces" at Chicha could give rise to a reaction from Libya, it was affirmed on Wednesday in Paris by the Chadian ambassador, Mr Ahmad Allam-mi. [Words indistinct] Mr Allami-mi said Libyan planes have been overflying the positions of the Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT) who are ready for any eventuality." [quotation mark as received] "The Chadian government, for its part, has not changed, and is ready for any initiative and for any meeting for peace," added Mr Allam-mi.

Alleged Libyan Soldiers Paraded

AB201317 Paris AFP in English 1253 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Ndjamena, March 20 (AFP) — Five alleged Libyan soldiers captured during fighting between government and rebel troops this week were paraded before several thousand people here Thursday. The five men, who had no trace of wounds, were not identified and bore no distinguishing marks on their khaki uniforms. One was black-skinned and the other four were of lighter Mediterranean type. Heavily-guarded, they were paraded in a military vehicle before being stood in front of a platform for government officials, where they were hissed and booed by the crowd.

The five were said to have been captured during fighting round Koro Toro, 500 kilometres (300 miles) north of here between Ndjamena government troops and Libyan-backed rebels of the Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT). Government officials said the enemy included members of Libya's "Islamic legion", and scores were killed or captured.

Chadian Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou told the crowd that all the "Libyan" prisoners held by the government would be returned [words indistinct]. Chad should show the world "that it has five million soldiers determined to boot out the Libyans", he said

ZAIRE

Mobutu Arrives in Goma En Route to Kampala

AB200826 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0740 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Goma, 19 Mar (AZAP) — The founding chairman of the MPR and president of the Republic, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, arrived late Wednesday morning in Goma from where he will leave for Kampala on Thursday to take part that same day in a meeting of heads of state of Uganda's neighboring countries, at the invitation of prersident Yoweri Museveni.

This meeting follows the one which brought together, on 27 January at Goma, the founding chairman of the MPR and his counterparts from Kenya, Rwanda, and Uganda. Also participating in the Kampala meeting are the presidents of Tanzania, Burundi, and Sudan.

GHANA

Tribunal Continues Treason Trials in Accra

AB191128 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] At today's sitting of the tribunal trying Mawuli Kofi Dra Goka and 14 others for preparing to overthrow the PNDC [Provisional National Defence Council], the prosecution submitted statements taken from the accused persons. The contents of all but one sought to review the role played by each of the accused persons in preparing to overthrow the government, and aiding their collaborators to escape lawful arrest.

The name of the sixth accused, Kwame Agyeman-Budu, manager of the Bekwai-Asante branch of the Ghana Commercial Bank, was mentionned only in the first statement of the third accused, Kyeremeh Djan, of being aware of the plot. But in his second statement, Kyeremeh Djan denied Agyeman-Budu's involvement. He said he only contacted Agyeman-Budu with the pretence to collect 1,000 cedis for his girlfriend.

In one statement, Agyeman-Budu said he knew Kyeremeh-Djan at Jatokrom in Brong Ahafo when he was there on duty in 1978 as a student leader. He said in May or in June 1983, Djan went to his office to seek his assistance for the printing of certain materials for use by students during their demonstrations. Agyeman-Budu said he advised him against such actions. He said he never saw him again until July 1985, and gave him 500 cedis as a gift. Sitting continues.

The second tribunal trying Alhaji Abubakr Musa, and two others for treason, today heard an address by the prosecution. The accused are charged on two counts of conspiring to commit crime and preparing to overthrow the government. The prosecution claimed that the first accused, Alhaji Musa, agreed to assist the coup plotters, when the third accused, one Abdullahi, who is at large, requested his assistance for petrol and some Nissan buses. It was also Alhaji Musa who took Abdullahi to the second accused, Amrose Afriyie, a petrol station manager, to discuss the arrangement. The prosecution said it was at this stage that Ambrose Afriyie joined the conspiracy.

Quoting some statements by the accused and corroborated by evidence before the tribunal, the prosecution held that there was a common criminal purpose among the accused persons to overthrow the government.

'Judgement' Within Week

AB192216 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] In Accra, the prosecution at the public tribunal trying Alhaji Abubakr Musa and two others for treason, today completed its address. Judgment in the case is expected next Wednesday [26 March]. The other accused persons are Ambrose Afriyie and one Abdullahi. They are facing two counts of preparing to overthrow the government. They have pleaded not guilty.

Continuing its address, the prosecution said the fact that Afriyie and Abdullahi did not accompany Musa on certain trips in connection with the plot did not exonerate them from the conspiracy since the trips were in furtherance of their crime. With regard to typewritten statement of the accused, the prosecution said they were accurate and should be accepted by the tribunal. It explained that the defense council did not challenge the contents of the statement but only the form in which they were presented. It added that all the charges against the accused have been proved beyond all reasonable doubt and asked that they should be found guilty and convicted accordingly.

At the sitting of the national public tribunal trying Mawuli Kofi Dra Goka and 14 others for preparing to overthrow the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], a prosecution witness, a detective inspector of police denied under cross-examination that statements from the accused persons were taken after they had been subjected to torture. He also denied a suggestion by the defense counsel that he dictated to the accused persons the contents of their statements.

Government Reduces Petroleum Product Prices

AB192212 Accra Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] The PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] has announced a reduction in the prices of petroleum products. The price of premium petrol goes down from 150 cedis per gallon to 140 cedis. Regular goes down from 145 cedis per gallon to 135 cedis, while gas oil is reduced from 130 cedis per gallon to 115 cedis. Oil dealers are warned that severe measures will be taken against any one who sells at the old prices even if the products were lifted from the refinery prior to this announcement. The public must insist on paying the new prices which take immediate effect.

LIBERIA

Doe: Government Seeking More Foreign Exchange

AB182228 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The president of Liberia, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, has assured local and foreign businessmen that government is working assiduously to secure more foreign exchange for the banking system in order to ease some of the problems faced by businessmen. President Doe also said government was holding talks with the authorities of local banks to reconsider some restrictions which are affecting businessmen operating in the country.

Dr Doe was speaking today at the Executive Mansion in Monrovia during a meeting with Lebanese, Indian, and Liberian businessmen to discuss ways and means of tackling the economic problems of the nation. President Doe, therefore, urged businessmen in the country to continue to deposit their money at local banks as government strives to bring things to normal in the country.

Opposition Coalition Declares Support for Teachers

AB200817 Paris AFP in English 0738 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Monrovia, March 20 (AFP) — The opposition coalition of the Unity Party, the Liberia Action Party and the Liberia Unification Party has expressed grave convern over what it calls the "continuous inability of government to meet the legitimate demands of public schoolteachers," the independent *SUNTIMES* newspaper reported Wednesday [19 March].

A coalition spokesman said the failure by head of state Samuel Doe's government to meet its obligations had led to the present chaotic situation, in which teachers have been on strike for a week against pay cuts and arrears.

The three parties called on the government [to] agree "immediately" to the teachers' "legitimate demands," the *SUNTIMES* reported. They also appealed to the students to express their grievances through "constitutional means."

Minister Denies Linking Politics, Students

AB192136 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Justice Minister Jenkins Scott has categorically denied an article in today's edition of the *MIRROR* newspaper which reported that he accused some political parties and individuals of being behind yesterday's rampaging by public schools students in Monrovia. In an interview with newsmen at his office today, Mr Scott described the article headlined: Justice Minister Blames Political Parties, as an outrageous lie. He said at no time during his press conference yesterday did he accuse political parties or politicians of inciting students to go on the rampage, causing damage to private schools and government property.

Minister Scott said it was his impression that the *MIRROR* article was calculated to create tension and confusion and not to convey information, according to a Public Affairs Bureau release issued today. The justice minister said he believed that political parties themselves are more responsible and that there is no evidence that they were behind yesterday's vandalism by students.

Students Attack French School, Whip Parents

AB191310 Paris AFP in English 1248 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Monrovia, March 19 (AFP) — Gangs of public school students backing a pay strike by their teachers went on the rampage for the second consecutive day Wednesday, attacking the French community school in the capital and whipping parents who had come to pick up their children, eyewitnesses said.

The gangs tore down gates to the school, hurled stones at buildings, smashed windows, chairs and furniture and forced pupils out of classes. Parents who had come to collect their children were accosted by the gangs and administered whippings. Eyewitnesses said no one was hurt in the melee, but damage to the facility was estimated at hundreds of thousands of dollars.

About 150 students attend the school, including French nationals and citizens of French-speaking African countries.

Doe Expresses Dismay

AB182214 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] The president of Liberia, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, has expressed dismay over the disorderly conduct of students of the Monrovia Consolidated School System, MCSS, this morning which resulted into damage of property in the Monrovia area. Dr Doe also expressed disappointment over the action of the students at this time when the government was endeavoring to address the problems affecting the teachers of the System.

Commenting further on the students' disorderly behavior this morning, the Liberian leader expressed regret that in spite of the appeal by the education minister, the students resorted to violence and vandalism. Meanwhile, Dr Doe has expressed sincere regret for those individuals and institutions whose property were damaged during the student disturbances and reemphasized his appeal to parents and guardians of students of the Monrovia Consolidated School System to ensure that their children remain at home during the break period.

Concluding, Dr Doe reiterated that it is the government's responsibility to protect life and property, he has, meanwhile, directed the minister of justice to ensure that law and order are maintained.

Witness Denies Cuban Involvement in Coup Attempt

AB191455 Paris AFP in French 1353 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Monrovia, 19 Mar (AFP) — Nine Liberians and 24 Sierra Leoneans took part in the abortive November coup plot against President Samuel K. Doe, but no Cuban national was involved, a witness claimed on Tuesday at the trial of three Liberians charged with participating in the coup plot.

According to this witness, Mr Lawrence Wills, summoned by the prosecution to the trial of James Holder, Anthony Mcquee, and Robert Philips, the 9 Liberians and 24 Sierra Leoneans entered Liberia from Sierra Leone. Although these mercenaries were trained in Sierra Leone at Camp Siaka, built by the Cubans to train the special force in charge of protecting former President Siaka Stevens, the Cubans were not involved in the attempted coup, Mr Wills added.

Following the abortive coup, the Liberian authorities accused Cubans, Ghanaians, Guineans, Ivorians, and Sierra Leoneans of taking a direct part in the coup plot. The author of the coup, General Thomas Quiwonkpa, was killed during the battles with the troops loyal to President Samuel Doe.

NIGERIA

New Plan Will Combat Illegal Immigrants

AB191235 Paris AFP in French 0846 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Lagos, 19 Mar (AFP) — The Nigerian government announced Tuesday evening that civil servants specializing in immigration problems would be integrated into each of the 300 Nigerian local government areas, in the framework of a new plan of action against illegal immigration. An official communique issued in Lagos Tuesday quoting the interior minister, John Shagaya, said that the local governments would each be provided with an immigration official who, in cooperation with various other security services, would be in charge of pursuing illegal immigrants.

According to Shagaya, the aim of this plan is to put an end to the illegal influx of foreigners to Nigeria, whose prosperity, which is now affected by the economic recession, has attracted numerous victims of the crisis from neighboring countries over the years.

In February 1983, and May 1985, Lagos expelled about 2.7 million illegal immigrants, including a large number of Ghanaians, accused of fueling delinguency and depriving Nigerians of jobs. On 28 February 1986, Nigeria, which is preparing a national citizen's identification system, reopened its borders, except that with Chad, closed for 20 months.

DPRK Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam Arrives

AB190840 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Talks are beginning in Lagos today between Nigeria and the DPRK on ways of strengthening their relations. The minister of external affairs, Dr Bolaji Akinyemi, is to lead the Nigerian delegation, while the DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs, Kim Yong-nam, will lead his country's team. Mr Kim arrived in Lagos yesterday to begin a 3-day official visit to Nigeria.

Bauchi State Governor Advocates One-Party Rule

AB182145 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Excerpt] In Bauchi, the state governor, Colonel Chris Garuba, has advocated a one-party system of government with a military man as the president. He made the suggestion in the state capital. Here is Fredman Jack with the rest of the story:

[Begin Jack recording] The governor, who was exchanging views with a committee of members of the Political Bureau, also maintained that the political system of the country could not be conducted without the participation of the military because the military was [words indistinct] Colonel Garuba also maintained that both the federal and state legislatures should be elected by the people. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Air Force Members Warned Not To 'Tarnish' Image

AB191035 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] The chief of Air Staff, Air Vice Marshal Ibrahim Alfa, has warned officers and men of the Air Force not to allow themselves to be used for acts capable of tarnishing the image of the Nigerian Air Force. He gave the warning in Lagos yesterday while addressing personnel of the Logistics Command. The chief of Air Staff condemned the role played by some Air Force officers in the last abortive coup plot and stressed the need for them to be loyal to the country at all times.

Air Vice Marshal Alfa disclosed that all the officers acquitted by the Ndiomu Tribunal would not be retained in the Air Force. He said although the decision might be cruel, it is in keeping with military tradition.

SAO TOME

Opposition Groups Announce Merger in Lisbon

LD192311 Lisbon Domestic Portuguese Service in Portuguese 2000 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Two Sao Tomean political opposition groups announced in Lisbon earlier today that they are joining forces against the Pinto da Costa regime in their island republic and are forming a coalition to become the CDOSTP [expansion not given].

They told a news conference that the two groups have agreed to place national independence above their individual interests. They said their main objective is to establish a democratic system in their country that would truly meet the aspirations of the people, if need by waging an armed struggle.

Asked to comment on the Portuguese Government's attitude to opposition groups from Portuguese-speaking African countries resident in Portugal, the CDOSTP leaders, who asked not to be named, said that the Portuguese stance is unconstitutional.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Sends Message to Mobutu via Official

MB200828 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labour Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, has sent a message to Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko. Pascoal Luvualu, a member of the MPLA Political Bureau, left yesterday for Kinshasa where he will be received in audience by the Zairian president.

According to ANGOP, relations between Angola and Zaire took a new turn after the release in Zaire of more than 150 foreign guest workers who had been kidnapped in Andrada, Lunda Norte Province, by the UNITA armed bandits. The UNITA bandits had crossed the Cassai River which serves as the border between Angola and Zaire and later took refuge in Zairian territory to escape the pursuit of the Angolan army.

Return of Released Hostages Sought

AB191924 Paris AFP in English 1750 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Lisbon, March 19 (AFP) — The Government of Angola is seeking the return of 197 foreigners seized and then released into neighboring Zaire by South African-backed rebels, the ANGOLAN NEWS AGENCY ANGOP said on Wednesday.

The hostages, who are mostly from Portugal, the Philippines, Britain, West Germany and Canada, were abducted by rebels of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) from a diamond-mining town in north-eastern Angola on March 1. However, they were released at the weekend into a remote region of Zaire, from where they are now waiting to be picked up. The Portuguese Government has offered to fly them to Lisbon.

The ANGOP dispatch said Angolan Armed Forces had on several occasions ambushed the column of guerrillas who were accompanying the hostages on a march to UNITA headquarters in the south of the country.

It had been Angolan Army pressure which had forced the guerrillas to take their hostages across the Cassai River into Zaire, where they were released, it added.

[Words indistinct] surprise that the Zairian authorities had not informed Luanda immediately that the hostages were on their territory. He added that Angola has a right to retrieve the hostages.

Government Said Preparing Attack on Jamba

MB171223 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] There are indications that the Angolan Government is preparing a major push against Dr Jonas Savimbi's main base at Jamba in southern Angola. The Luanda government is said to be planning a sweeping air attack, and as Mario Prespo reports from Lisbon, preparations are well advanced.

[Prespo] The landing strip at Cuito Cuanavale, which is as near as the MPLA can get to UNITA's area of influence, has been recently elongated and reinforced, while over the past few weeks large prefabricated fuel tanks have been brought into Cuito Cuanavale, their base. Preparations are well advanced and intelligence reports say a fresh contingent of Soviet personnel experienced in guerrilla warfare has been flown into Angola from Afghanistan. Soviet officers are said to be behind the preparations of the offensive against Jamba. Dr Savimbi normally operates his headquarters from Jamba, but he has an alternative command post at Licuia, which is closer to the border with South-West Africa/Namibia. On the other hand, UNITA has been intensifying lately its operations in northern Angola, which have reached an intensity unseen until now in the 11-year civil war. This could well indicate that the UNITA leader is aware of the threat which will come from Cuito Cuanavale as soon as the rain stops.

UNITA Leader Confirms Chemical Materials Report

MB200849 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The chief of intelligence of the UNITA movement in Angola, Brigadier (Cassito Chindondo), who is on a short visit to South Africa, has confirmed French intelligence reports that Soviet Army technicians have flown into Angola to construct special bunkers for the storage of chemical warfare materials.

Brigadier (Chindondo) told Radio RSA in Johannesburg that the building of the bunkers, which had come to the attention of the UNITA movement during the interrogation of captured Angolan Government military officers, could have grave consequences for southern Africa.

Questioned about the presence of the ANC in Angola, Brigadier (Chindondo) said there were three ANC battalions, consisting of about 900 men, fighting with the MPLA forces against UNITA. He said there were about 7,000 SWAPO terrorists in Angola.

GDR Official Arrives in Luanda on Visit

MB171607 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Dr Kurt Kleinert, state secretary and director of the Secretariat of the GDR Council of Ministers, arrived in Luanda this morning on a working visit to the People's Republic of Angola. He first paid his heartfelt respects to the immortal guide of the Angolan revolution, the former president Agostinho Neto, by laying a wreath on his memorial in the People's Palace.

Dr Kurt Kleinert is visiting Angola at invitation of Dr Flavio Fernandes, secretary of the Angolan Council of Ministers, and will meet this afternoon Comrade Mariano Puco, the Luanda provincial commissar. In addition to this meeting, Dr Kleinert will meet Comrade Juliao Mateus Paulo Dino Matross, secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee for the state [name and title as heard], and with Evaristo Domingos Kimba, minister of agriculture. The president of the republic, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, will also meet Dr Kleinert, who will sign a cooperation agreement with Angola in the field of training cadre for state organizations.

BOTSWANA

'Cordial' Cooperation Talks Held With Zimbabwe

MB171232 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1110 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Delegates to the meeting of the Botswana-Zimbabwe joint commission of cooperation held in Gaborone over the weekend have emphasized the need to strengthen bilateral cooperation. The two delegations said in a communique signed at the end of their meeting that the unstable political situation in southern Africa, in particular the South African destabilization policy, had an adverse effect on the economies of Botswana and Zimbabwe. However, the meeting expressed satisfaction at the progress made by the joint commission since its inception in 1984. The delegates reaffirmed their determination to continue to promote cooperation and explore new areas for economic, scientific, cultural, and technical cooperation between their peoples. The communique said the discussions were conducted in an atmosphere of cordial and mutual understanding. The Zimbabwean delegation was led by the country's minister of trade and commerce, Dr Munyaradzi, while the Botswana delegation was led by the minister of commerce and industry, Mr Kwako Nwako.

MOZAMBIQUE

UN Refugee Commission Delegation Visits for Talks

MB171222 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpt] A delegation from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, the UNHCR, left Maputo this morning. While in Maputo, the delegation held discussion with Mozambican authorities about the situation of displaced Mozambicans who fled across the borders into neighboring countries largely as a result of the South-African backed terrorism. In Maputo, the delegation held talks with representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross and with the U.S. Embassy officials. These contacts were aimed at investigating the possibilities that the Red Cross or the United States might be able to help finance the repatriation of the refugees. There are also Mozambican refugees in Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Malawi.

Talks on Water Affairs Held With South Africa

MB171358 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1353 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 17, SAPA — Three delegates of the Mozambican Department of Water Affairs have held discussions with their counterparts in Pretoria in terms of the Nkomati Accord whereby assistance and technical advice is offered to the Mozambican Government.

The Department of Water Affairs said in a statement that during the two-day visit last week, the visitors discussed hydrological data, the monitoring of pollution, evaluation of new projects and underground water, and specific technical problems relating to dams.

The delegates were led by Mr A. Lopes Pereira, national director, and two engineers in his department.

During their stay in Pretoria, the Mozambicans also visited the hydrological research institute at Roodeplaat Dam near Pretoria.

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha Comments on Mandela Release

MB191756 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1700 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha and U.S. special envoy, Frank Wisner, met again in Frankfurt, West Germany today, to discuss an independence plan for South-West Africa. An American Embassy spokesman in Bonn said the meeting was part of the continued series of meetings with key figures in southern Africa. The spokesman confirmed that bilateral and regional issues had been on the agenda for today's meeting.

During a break newsmen also asked Mr Botha about the possible release of Nelson Mandela.

[Botha] He can be released the moment the South African Government can be satisfied that his release will not be accompanied by large-scale violence and the killing of a lot of people. The main aim behind that is that he should abandon violence which as a rule applies to you and me and all persons in any civilized country of the world. Either that or if Mr Sakharov can be released and Captain du Toit, a South African soldier presently held prisoner in Angola, if he could be safely returned to South Africa, then there will immediately be a basis for negotiating for Mr Mandela's release on humanitarian grounds. That is the position of the South African Government.

[Unidentified reporter] So in your opinion, what is the stumbling block today to settlement in Namibia? The Cubans and Angola?

[Botha] That is the sole obstacle. There are, we believe, 40,000 Cuban troops in Angola, making it possible for the Luanda government to maintain itself in power.

Heunis Discusses National Statutory Council

MB181915 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1800 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 18, SAPA — The national statutory council put forward by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, would offer black leaders the opportunity to share in decision-making at the highest level, and they would thereby be able to make a positive contribution to the running (bestuur) of the country, the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, said today.

Mr Heunis, who was addressing a student rally at the University of Pretoria, said this was the first step on the road to permanent power sharing.

He said the council, which would meet under the chairmanship of Mr Botha, would consider matters of community interest and advise the government accordingly. This would include proposed legislation concerning those matters.

The council would comprise representatives of the South African governments of the self-governing regions, as well as leaders of other black communities and interested groups.

This was an open invitation, Mr Heunis said, and he believed the time had come for South African leaders, irrespective of what origin to join hands "to search together for mutual, acceptable solutions that meet our situation".

Mr Heunis said he believed that the search for a more acceptable constitutional dispensation should be tackled with urgency. An acceptable and just political system in South Africa could only be worked out through negotiation with all interested parties. That was why the government did not prescribe structures. It believed however, in fixed principles, such as the non- domination and protection of minorities, which would have to be taken into account in constitutional structures.

Mr Heunis said an acceptable and just political dispensation might contain "elements of various models, for example, elements of confederation, federation and union, as well as elements of traditional systems".

"Indeed, our present system already contains elements of confederation, federation, and union".

Regarding future systems, Mr Heunis said cooperation between the republic and independent national states might contain confederal elements. The representation of self-governing national states and provinces in a central government institution might also contain elements of a federation.

The time had come, however, for South Africans who were serious about reform, to stop looking fixedly at stipulated and narrowly defined systems in their search for a solution.

"We must look to one another for solutions," Mr Heunis said.

The "constitutional study of problems" of South Africa could not be solved by constitutional experts. This was the task of the political leaders of the country black, colored, white and Asian, he said.

The South African Government was tied to democracy as the only acceptable means whereby each South African's political aspirations could be given meaning.

The new constitution, the recent measures concerning new local authority regulations, particularly in connection with the proposed regional services councils, the multilateral cooperation structures with the independent states, and the principle of devolution of power, were all instruments which, as such, did not offer the final solution.

However, these formed part of a continuous development process to improve each one's participation in decision-making along democratic lines, Mr Heunis said.

Meeting To Be Addressed by Boesak Banned

MB191813 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1700 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] A meeting in King William's Town that was to be addressed by Alan Boesak has been banned. The United Democratic Front [UDF] patron and president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches was to speak on Christian involvement in South African politics. He was invited to speak by the King William's Town civic association, a UDF affiliate. Magistrate Peter Nel imposed the ban in terms of section 46 of the Internal Security Act and he said he had reason to believe public order would be seriously endangered by the meeting. The civic association spokesman, John Mit, says the banning order is to be challenged in the Grahamstown Supreme Court tonight.

Appeals Court Finds Detention Orders on 16 Invalid

MB201009 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1003 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Bloemfontein, March 20, SAPA — The appeal court in Bloemfontein today found that detention orders served on 16 people in August 1984, including six people who subsequently sought refuge in the British Consulate in Durban, were invalid.

The Chief Justice Mr Justice Rabie, with the concurrence of Mr Justice Trengove, Mr Justice Hoexter, Mr Justice Botha and Mr Justice Van Heerdn, upheld appeals by Mr Curtis Ephrain Nkondo and seven others against a judgment of Mr Justice H.H. Nestadi, and by Mr Archibald Jacob Gumede and seven others against a judgment of a full bench of the Natal Supreme Court.

The appeal court dismissed an appeal by the minister of law and order and Lieutenant Strydom, officer commanding Pietermaritzburg prison, against a decision of Mr Justice B. Law in the Natal Supreme Court on September 7, 1984 to release Mr Gumede and six others from detention. The appeal was dismissed with costs, including those of two counsels.

The appeal court ordered the appeals of the former detainees to be upheld, with costs including those of two counsels. The lower court orders were set aside and therefore were substituted orders that: The orders of detention issued by the minister against the applicants are declared to be invalid. The respondent (minister) is to pay the applicants' costs, including those of two counsels.

ANC's Nzo Lays Down Conditions for Talks With RSA

MB201214 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The African National Congress of South Africa has said it is ready for a dialogue with the South African Government only if the political ban imposed on it is lifted. The other condition is that jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners be released from jail.

ANC Secretary General Alfred Nzo extended an olive branch to the Pretoria regime in Lusaka today in an interview with journalists. Mr Nzo dismissed charges by the Botha regime that his organization was terrorist bent on driving the white man into the sea.

ANC Rejects Invitation to Convention Talks

MB200917 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0900 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The ANC has turned down an invitation to attend 3 days of talks in Britain next week, dubbed a trial national convention. The talks on the crisis in South Africa were due to bring together the ANC, UDF [United Democratic Front], AZAPO, [Azanian People's Organization], Inkatha, and possibly government representatives as well. The talks are believed to have the sanctions of the British Government. Howard Barrell reports.

[Barrell] An ANC official spokesman in Lusaka said today the outlawed movement would not be attending the talks in Britain. He said the ANC did not have the time for talks of this nature at this stage. We are attending to various serious matters concerning our liberation struggle, the ANC spokesman said. Observers are not surprised at the ANC's response. For some time now it has been clear that ANC leaders are concerned that talks of one kind or another have been taking up too much time and diverting attention away from what they regard as more serious pursuits.

Former Botswana ANC Representative on Withdrawal

MB142004 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 14 Mar 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The ANC now has no official presence in any of the countries neighboring South Africa. Over the past couple of years, it has been kicked out of Swaziland, Mozambique, and Lesotho under heavy South African pressure. Now, following a number of landmine explosions on the border between South Africa and Botswana, the ANC has got its marching orders from Gaborone. The ANC's representative in Botswana was Thami Sindelo. He is now in Lusaka. On the line, Julian Marshall asked Thami Sindelo how he had found out that he had to leave Botswana.

[Begin recording] [Sindelo] Well, I was called here by my president, Oliver Tambo. He said that I should come back to Lusaka as soon as I possibly can and before doing that I should try and wind up my work in Botswana.

[Marshall] Had the Botswana authorities said anything to you?

[Sindelo] No, they didn't because I got my instructions directly from my headquarters, from my president in Lusaka.

[Marshall] Did it come as something of a surprise to you?

[Sindelo] Well, considering the situation generally in that region, it really didn't come as a surprise.

[Marshall] What do you mean by that?

[Sindelo] I mean that there have been talks going on between the South African Government and the Botswana Government and we know that they were making certain demands on the Botswana Government, particularly that they could not tolerate the presence of the ANC in Botswana, as they say in whatever guise. So, this was, sort of, expected.

[Marshall] Are you disappointed with the Botswana Government?

[Sindelo] Not at all. I don't think I am. I am not disappointed because, having lived there for almost a year, I was aware of the happenings in Botswana, particularly the pressures that have been exerted by South Africa on Botswana.

[Marshall] Do you think that had you continued in Botswana that the South Africans might have attempted some kind of raid on the territory?

[Sindelo] I should think so, positively, because that is part of the destabilization process of the South African regime against neighboring states which refuse to bow down to their demands.

[Marshall] What was the nature of your presence in Botswana, Mr Sindelo? Was it simply political and diplomatic?

[Sindelo] It was simply diplomatic and political, period. That was my main work there.

[Marshall] So you would deny any South African suggestions that Botswana was being used as something of a rear base?

[Sindelo] Absolutely, absolutely. You see, the problem is that the South African regime seems to think that the ANC, wherever it is, constitutes a threat and in order to justify their threats against these countries, they always say that people are using these countries as a rear base. Now, the ANC has made it clear on various occasions that we do not want to expose these countries to any threat or danger of invasion by South Africa. Therefore, we have refrained from using any of these frontline areas as what you would call rear bases for the ANC. The struggle is in reality taking place right within the frontiers of South Africa and therefore there is no need for us to use these countries in any way as a springboard for action or military action inside South Africa.

[Marshall] Not even for fighters to transit?

[Sindelo] Fighters, no. If you had asked that question a few years ago, I would have said yes, but as things are today, the situation is quite different. We do not need to use these countries in any way as springboard or transit territories for our actions inside the country. [end recording]

Le Grange Replies to Question on Guguletu Killings

MB181410 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1353 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] House of Assembly, March 18, SAPA — None of the seven men shot dead in a gun battle with police in Guguletu on March 3 had attempted to surrender, the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, said today.

Replying to a question from Mr Tiaan van der Merwe (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] Green Point) the minister said the South African Police had information that the men, all of whom were armed at the time, were members of the banned African National Congress and had been trained as "terrorists". None of them had previously been detained or arrested in terms of any security legislation.

All the dead had gunshot wounds but details of these and the cause of death and injury of each, established at post mortem examinations, were not yet available.

Mr le Grange said a quantity of arms and ammunition, including three AK-47 rifles, a pistol, two revolvers, and two hand grenades had been confiscated. The seven men had been travelling in a private delivery van which had been stolen on February 26, but he refused to give further details of the owner of the van, saying it was not in the public interest.

The minister confirmed police had received information from sources in the Old Crossroads and other squatter camps in the area a few days before the shooting, to the effect that "a group of terrorists" intended to attack the police station and a police unit in Guguletu.

Efforts to trace the men or the stolen van had not been successful.

Beyond describing the man in charge at the incident as a commissioned officer, Mr le Grange said he was not prepared to make his name public.

Businessmen Meet Le Grange To Discuss Bannings

MB200620 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text]Senior representatives of the Federated Chamber of Industries [FCI] and the Midlands Chamber of Industries have met the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, to discuss the banning orders instituted against Mr Mkhuseli Jack and Mr Henry Fazzie.

A statement released by the FCI says that both of these community leaders have been involved for some time in negotiations with the local chamber of industries to find ways of reducing tension in the Port Elizabeth area. The statement says Mr le Grange indicated the reasons why, from a security viewpoint, the banning orders were imposed.

BBC Interviews Banned Port Elizabeth Leader

MB151229 London BBC World Service in English 0635 GMT 15 Mar 86

[From the "This Week and Africa" program]

[Text] In South Africa, Mkhuseli Jack, the president of the Port Elizabeth Youth Congress, has been banned. The Youth Congress organized a 5 month's boycott last year of white shops and business by black consumers in the Indian Ocean cities of East London and Port Elizabeth. The boycott, which crippled many white businesses, was called off when the authorities met some of the activists' demands, but there was talk of resuming it this month to get the outstanding demands met, such as the release of Nelson Mandela and the dismantling of the apartheid system. Just before his banning, Mkhuseli Jack was in London and Julian Marshall asked him if he believed those demands were realistic:

[Begin recording][Jack] Well, they are reasonable. I mean in the light of dismantling apartheid, releasing Nelson Mandela and all other political prisoners, the returning of all political exiles, and the unbanning of organizations can change nothing in South Africa overnight. But it will create an atmosphere of a shift from apartheid and that is enough, at least the starting point from which people can see from there where do they go. They are very reasonable and we have taken them up, we have discussed them with the local chamber of commerce, and they have said that also that they are reasonable.

[Marshall] There were allegations while the boycott was in progress of intimidation of those people who refused to observe it, that people were being maltreated, they were being forced to eat and drink purchases that they had made by people involved in this boycott.

[Jack] Well, I don't know. It is difficult for me to deny or confirm them, these allegations, except that to wait and see as to what are the basis of their.... [changes thought] the foundations, where do they come from, something like that, because I think the logical thing will be this is a fact that so and so was taken to court for what he has done and because of that and that, then maybe we can see. But what is important is the fact that we have made it quite clear, time and again, that the boycott should be on a voluntary basis and understanding and therefore we don't think that such an action could happen. If it has happened, South Africa has got so many laws which are security laws which, you know, could not have permitted anybody to commit such a crime, and they will be taken immediately on the basis of that. To us it sounds as if these are empty allegations which have no basis whatsoever.

[Marshall] So, you are saying that these incidents did not take place?

[Jack] No, I am not saying that, but that is the conclusion you could come to because, I mean in South Africa obviously you would never be allowed to engage in that. We were arrested for saying to the people they should boycott the white shops. How much more for a person who could be stopping people, that is, I mean, how I see it goes. I am not necessarily saying that; if these things could happen then obviously they will be shown by people. There is not a single person who has been taken to court for such actions and therefore it is difficult for me with certainty to say that this thing has happened. I think it is an attempt to try to blackmail our campaign. [end recording]

PFP Divided Over Proposal To Expel Slabbert
MB171304 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] A split is looming in the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] over a proposal to expel former leader Frederick van Zyl Slabbert. Proposals to force Dr Slabbert out have been made in opposition circles, but the party is believed to be deeply divided over the campaign.

Some members of the party are baying for the former leader's blood, believing he has cast doubts on the party's integrity and should therefore be expelled. However, he retained sympathy among a large section. The matter came to a head recently when Dr Slabbert said he agreed only reluctantly to participate in the tricameral Parliament. However, the PFP maintains it was owing to Dr Slabbert's forceful argument that the party opted to stay in Parliament.

Black Sash Calls for Resignation of Le Grange
MB171754 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1740 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, March 17, SAPA — The Black Sash said at the weekend it was convinced the South African Government was "deliberately provoking violence and promoting disorder in South Africa," and called for the resignation of the minister of law and order, Mr Louis Le Grange.

At the national conference of the women's organisation, held in Durban at the weekend, the Black Sash said it could find "No other rational interpretation which could explain the free hand given to vigilantes, the lack of police action to protect persons and property from violent attacks and the failure to prosecute persons against whom charges of assault, arson and sometimes murder have been laid."

The group said that the state "seeks violent confrontation in a deliberate attempt to crush all opposition." The detention of children also drew the Sash's criticism.

The organisation said the Internal Security Act and the Public Safety Act were given precedence over other laws such as the Children's Act as no fewer than 2106 children, aged between eight and 16 years old, were detained during the state of emergency.

"We believe that Mr le Grange has shown himself incapable of handling the portfolio of justice ... We therefore call for his resignation."

The Black Sash also called on all mothers and fathers in South Africa to "exercise maximum and sustained pressure on the government to stop the abuse of children."

New Crossroads Committee Leaders Murdered
MB201305 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1300 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 20, SAPA — The chairman of the New Crossroads Committee, Mr Venfolo Sitwanyi, 38, and his deputy, Mr James Mehlala, 56, have been murdered.

Their bodies were found by police in New Crossroads last night. Their heads had been badly slashed and their lower bodies burnt. It is understood that they had also been stoned. Post-mortem examinations will be held.

The men were neighbours in Ndabaqinzi Street, New Crossroads. A police spokesman said today the motive had not been established. It could not be established today whether other members of the committee would be protected in the wake of the killings, which are understood to have occurred after a meeting in the area earlier in the night.

Police were called to New Crossroads just before midnight after being telephoned and told there were two bodies in the street.

The killings happened after two houses and a car were set alight in the area earlier in the day by a group of about 50 people. The home-owners were not present at the time.

The police spokesman said investigators were told that Mr Sitwayi was at home with his wife when a mob of between 20 and 30 people attacked him and told him they would kill him.

The spokesman said it appeared as if Mr Sitwayi had tried to defend himself and then fled his house. He took refuge at a nearby property but the crowd told the occupants that if they did not hand him over, they would also be attacked. Mr Sitwayi is understood to have given himself up and was then killed.

The body of Mr Mehlala was found about 30 metres away. He had apparently been at home at the time of the attack. The men's houses were damaged and looted.

UNITA Officials Shouted Down at Witwatersrand U.
MB191659 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] A large group of black students shouting pro-MPLA, pro-ANC, and anti-UNITA slogans and displaying placards, this afternoon disrupted and fought at a meeting on the campus of the University of the Witwatersrand, which was to have been addressed by three senior UNITA officers who are on a visit to

South Africa. The officers are the guests of the National Student Federation.

University security men told the officers to leave the campus for the sake of their personal safety. The visiting UNITA officers are UNITA's permanent secretary and members of the Executive Committee, Brigadier Tito Chinaunji; UNITA's intelligence chief, Brigadier Kasitu Chindondo; and a member of the movement's public relations division, Brigadier Jorge Muzangala.

'Thousands' of Mamelodi Workers End Boycott

MB200912 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0843 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 20, SAPA — Thousands of workers from Mamelodi returned to work early today following a three-day work boycott.

Some of the employees return to work with the prospect of losing their jobs, while others face a threat of a slashed pay at the end of the week. An irate Pretoria employer indicated on Monday he would fire his four employees from Mamelodi and hire workers from areas that would not be affected by stayaways.

Buses and taxis, which had suspended services for the past three days, ran normally in Mamelodi early today, ferrying thousands of employees to work.

The call for a three-day work boycott was sparked off by the disruption by the police of a meeting to launch the Mamelodi Civic Association, during which at least 10 people were injured. No anti-apartheid organisation in the township has claimed responsibility for the call.

Pamphlets urging people to go back to work were distributed by the security forces in the township last night and the forces used a megaphone from one block to another early today to urge people to return to work as they would protect them.

The pamphlets read : There will be no stayaway in Mamelodi on March 20. Security forces will patrol all streets to bus terminus, Eerste Fabriexke station and taxi rank. Intimidators will be arrested. It will be safe for you to go to work.

There were heavy patrols of police and the army, some moving from street to street on foot in Mamelodi West, to ensure that the workers moved to their transport boarding points unhindered, but as the boycott enforcers had indicated workers could go back to work today. [sentence as received].

8 Trade Unionists in Hospital After Police Action

MB201109 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1102 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 20, SAPA — Eight trade union members have been admitted to hospital following police action against about 300 strikers in Germiston yesterday.

Six of those in hospital are under police guard. Earlier, union reports referred to only four workers in hospital.

The Paper Wood and Allied Workers Union said police entered the premises of GB Engineering and Pan African Shopfitters yesterday teargassed about 300 strikers who were assembled in a closed room.

The workers had been on strike at two firms and had slept on company property despite a supreme court interdict ordering them to leave the premises.

"Eight people were seriously injured and are in hospital and a number of others were badly cut after going through plate glass to escape the gas," a union spokesman said.

"Seventy-one members of our union and the Metal and Allied Workers Union were arrested and appeared in the Germiston Magistrates Court yesterday afternoon. Bail was set at R500 each, which we could not afford. They were remanded in custody until March 25. It is believed they will face charges of trespassing.

"Our lawyers were not informed of the court appearance. They were under the impression that the workers would appear in court today.

"We totally condemn the police action as the workers were engaged in a peaceful action in an attempt to get the employers to discuss alternatives to retrenchement.

"We believe charges should be dropped and will raise the matter with the Congress of SA Trade Unions this weekend and are investigating the customers of Pan African Shopfitters."

Violence, Protests Occur Over 'Bail Fund' Demands

MB200616 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2041 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text) Cape Town March 19 SAPA — Nyanga youths today burnt down the house of a man who allegedly attacked two girls with an axe because their families refused to contribute to a "bail fund" for arrested faction fighters.

And in a further development today, about 250 women marched to the Guguletu police station to demand an end to intimidation and demands by armed men for "bail fund" contributions.

According to residents, the money would be used for the release of "white doek (cloth cap)" fighters, who were arrested by police in January.

One of the women attacked last night, Miss Boniwe Nyembezi 18, was admitted to hospital, her mother, Mrs Gladys Nyembezi said.

"Her head was split open and there were cut marks on her body. My daughter was minding her business. She had nothing to do with the white doeks".

This morning, after a deputation of about 30 women reported the attacks at Guguletu police station, about 250 women — mostly mothers — marched to the station to demand that police put a stop to the "white doek committees business". They were ordered to disperse by police, which they did. There were no incidents.

Meanwhile, youths this morning torched the house and car of the man they believe responsible for the attacks. An adjoining house, belonging to Mr Patrick Mgcikwa, was also destroyed in the blaze.

"I don't know what happened. I came home and found this," he said, indicating a pile of furniture heaped in a neighbours garden.

A police liaison officer for the Western Cape Lieut Attie Laubscher, confirmed the burning of the homes and the car and said police had opened an arson docket and were investigating. Police were also investigating allegations made at Guguletu police station by about 30 women, he said.

Five Now Reported Dead in Student-Gang Fighting

MB201121 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1116 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 20, SAPA — At least five people were killed and five houses and five cars burned in Diepkloof, near Soweto, during a day-long fight between pupils and members of the Kabasa gang.

The fight started on Tuesday morning and continued until early yesterday. Three houses were burned in zone four and one each in zone three and zone one.

The fight between the Kabasa, non-scholars from Orlando East, and the pupils was said to have been caused by a youth in a car knocking down another youth in Diepkloof on Saturday.

His mother, anticipating revenge by pupils, recruited the Kabasa gang to protect her and the gang stayed at her home over the weekend and Monday.

Neighbours said about 3,000 pupils attacked the house in zone four with petrol bombs on Tuesday. As they exploded inside the house the gang fled but two people were caught by the pupils, doused with petrol, and burned. Residents watched in horror as the two men burnt to death.

A Soweto police spokesman, Major F. Zwane, confirmed today that five men had been stoned or burnt to death in a clash between a gang and a group of youths.

The three others who died were abducted by the Kabasa gang when they returned to the neighbourhood at about 6pm. Witnesses said the young men were taken away by the gang and several shots fired. Three bodies were identified at the government mortuary. They were Mr Tankiso Mofokeng, 19, Mr Lawrence Raphela, 22, Mr Kgadi Ramela. Mr Raphela was returning from work. The other two were unemployed.

At midnight the gang burnt down a house belonging to teacher Mr Aaron Ramela and tried to burn another belonging to motor mechanic Mr Peter Maeti. Two of his vehicles were destroyed. The Kabasas also burned two houses believed to belong to their attackers.

A resident who did not wish to be identified said: "It was a real battle. The pupils were armed with petrol bombs, pangas and knives and came to our houses to ask for axes."

Blast Rocks Springs Church; No Injuries Reported

MB191957 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1956 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Johannesburg, March 19, SAPA — An explosion rocked a church on the East Rand this evening, police in Pretoria said.

A spokesman told SAPA in a telephone interview the blast went off at the Nuwe Apostolies Kerk (New Apostolic Church) in Geduld, Springs. No injuries were immediately reported, the spokesman said, adding damage appeared to be slight. The spokesman could not confirm the blast was caused by a limpet mine.

"That's something we're still looking at." The spokesman had no further details.

Tonight's blast comes after a number of blast and mine incidents on the east Rand in recent days.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 19 Mar

MB191658 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1655 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 19, SAPA — Here follows the unrest report up to 7pm today, issued by the SAP's Public Relations Division in Pretoria.

"At Seeisoville, near Kroonstad, arsonists extensively damaged a delivery vehicle.

"Arsonists also extensively damaged a private vehicle at Tembisa, near Kempton Park, and a delivery vehicle at Soweto, near Johannesburg.

"Near Mostertslus, in Lebowa, an unknown number of blacks barricaded a road. The Lebowa police made use of shotguns and a man was wounded; 34 men and 12 women were arrested.

"At Soweto, near Johannesburg, two men were stoned to death.

"The death toll at Jouberton, near Klerksdorp, (originally reported as two dead and one wounded at 7pm on March 16) has risen to four. One man was found dead during investigations, while the wounded man died in hospital."

Early 20 Mar

MB200625 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0620 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 20, SAPA — The overnight unrest situation report from the SAP Public Relations Directorate in Pretoria follows.

"The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

"At Soweto (WWR) [Witwatersrand] large mobs stoned and petrol-bombed SAP members. They were dispersed with shotgun fire. Two youths were wounded and nine arrested.

"At Duncanvillage near EL [East London] a delivery vehicle was extensively damaged by stonethrowers. A man was slightly injured by the mob.

"At Sandkraalweg industrial area and Lawaaikamp in the south western Cape, there were incidents of stonethrowing at SAP and private vehicles. Tearsmoke and shotgun was fired to disperse these mobs. No injuries were reported.

"At Seisoville near Kroonstad, buses were damaged by stonethrowers on a number of occasions.

"At Motherwell near PE [Port Elizabeth] 3 black men were seriously injured when petrol was poured over them and set alight.

"At Borcherds, a coloured residential area near George, a delivery vehicle was destroyed when it was petrol-bombed.

"At Guguletu, 2 black men were stabbed to death and their bodies set on fire with petrol.

"In Atteridgeville, 3 private homes were damaged when they were petrol-bombed.

"In the black residential area near Barberton, a private home was extensively damaged by stonethrowers. In the same area, a policeman's home was set on fire and extensively damaged. The arsonists were dispersed with pistol fire. A youth was wounded and arrested."

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 MARCH 1986

Champs Elysees Bombing Claimed

The "Committee of Solidarity With Arab and Middle East Political Prisoners in Europe" claimed responsibility for the 20 March bombing of a Champs Elysees shopping gallery that killed 2 people and injured about 30 others, Paris radio reported. A spokesman for the group told the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio that there will be further bombings in the streets of Paris unless France releases three of the group's "strugglers" being held in French prisons. The spokesman said that while the group regrets the death of innocent people, it considers French citizens to be the "dispensable victims" of their government's policies. He also warned that the "streets and citizens of Rome" would be attacked unless Italy released two of the group's "strugglers."

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes destroyed two Iranian bridges over the Karun River 21 March, according to a military statement reported by Voice of the Masses radio. An Iraqi military communique broadcast by the radio earlier claimed that Iraqi planes attacked another "large maritime target" near the Iranian coast as well as a television relay station and gas station near Shadegan 20 March. In separate reports, INA cited Lloyd's insurance company announcements that a Cypriot and a Liberian oil tanker were hit in missile attacks near Khark Island 20 March.

Meanwhile, Iranian planes attacked an Iraqi Army headquarters "deep inside" Iraqi territory 20 March, according to an Iranian military communique cited by IRNA. In another development, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps minister claimed that the fall of the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr and its naval base is "imminent," IRNA reported.

Egypt-Israel

President Husni Mubarak offered sincere condolences to Israel over the 19 March shooting incident outside the Cairo trade fair that left one Israeli dead and three others wounded, MENA reported, citing remarks by the Egyptian tourism minister. In a meeting with the Israeli tourism minister, Mubarak called the attack by gunmen the work of an "extremist minority," and stressing his desire for strengthened Egyptian-Israeli relations he ordered the remaining travel restrictions between the two countries to be lifted, MENA added. Beirut radio later reported that Egyptian authorities have given permission for an Israeli team to take part in the investigations.

In another development, MENA reported that the fifth round of the Tabah talks ended in Cairo 20 March. The Egyptian delegation spokesman told MENA that the delegations made "reasonably good progress" on procedural issues related to the "arbitral compromis" and said that the next round of talks will be held in Israel in the middle of next week.

Egypt-USSR

People's Assembly Speaker Rif'at al-Mahjub met with a visiting Soviet parliamentary delegation led by Pavel Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, MENA reported. Gilashvili said the USSR is anxious to expand relations with Egypt "in all spheres," while Al-Mahjub declared that Egypt is "eager" to develop its relations with the USSR, the report added.

King Husayn Discusses PLO Ties in Egypt

King Husayn returned to Jordan following a 1-day visit to Egypt, Amman television reported. After his 4-hour meeting with President Mubarak in Cairo 20 March, King Husayn said Jordanian efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East have reached a "dead end," adding that "we and all the concerned parties in the area are now observing a period of contemplation," MENA reported. The king further remarked that there has been "nothing new" in Jordanian-PLO relations since Jordan halted political coordination with the PLO 19 February.

PLO-Syria

The PLO has decided to "turn over a new leaf" with Syria, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said in an interview with the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I* that was reported by Abu Dhabi radio. 'Arafat expressed his hope that Palestinian-Syrian meetings would succeed, adding that for its part the PLO has halted "Media Campaigns." In a related development, PLO Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi announced that the Syrian stance toward the PLO "has improved compared to what it was previously." In an interview with *Al-'ARAB reported by Kuna, Qaddummi said "the way is being* paved" toward good PLO-Syrian relations.

Opec Affairs

The 13 OPEC countries meeting in Geneva have thus far reached no agreement on oil production cuts, OPEC Conference President Arturo Hernandez Grisanti said in remarks reported by AFP. Hernandez admitted that the meeting has been "very difficult" but said the OPEC countries are willing to continue their discussions until a "solution" is reached, AFP added. The News agency earlier reported that Iraq has rejected its previously allotted production quota and noted that the Saudi oil minister has reaffirmed that the Kingdom is no longer prepared to adjust its output according to swings in demand for OPEC oil. In Tehran, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i told the visiting Syrian foreign minister that Opec will 'act decisively" to reject oil prices "imposed" by its 'enemies."

Sudan-Ethiopia

The delegations of Sudan's National Alliance for National Salvation and the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) held their opening meeting in Addis Ababa 20 March, the clandestine SPLA radio reported, adding that SPLA commander in Chief John Garang attended the opening ceremony. SUNA later reported that the "situation deteriorated" when the National Alliance delegation unanimously opposed the presence of Mansur Khalid, a minister under former President Ja'far Numayri, as a delegation member for the SPLA side.

In Khartoum, the deputy commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces said that Sudan has filed several complaints to Ethiopia through diplomatic channels over Ethiopian planes' violation of Sudanese airspace 18 March and he claimed that the planes were carrying supplies to SPLA forces, SUNA reported.

Pakistan-DRA

Pakistan lodged a "strong protest" with the DRA charge d'affaires in Pakistan over Afghan air attacks on a border post and refugee camp in Khurram Agency which killed 6 people and injured 22 others 16 and 18 March, Karachi radio reported.

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'Arafat Affirms PLO Keen on 'Immortal' Jordan Ties

GF201609 Doha QNA in Arabic 1459 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpts] A responsible Palestinian source has told the QNA correspondent in Abu Dhabi that Yasir 'Arafat has informed His Highness Shaykh Zayid about the new development in Jordanian-Palestinian relations following the Jordanian monarch's announcement on halting coordination with the PLO.

The source added that during the meeting, Yasir 'Arafat affirmed the organization's keenness on its immortal relations with Jordan and its readiness to resume the dialogue on the basis of recognizing the Palestinian national rights, foremost of which is the right to self-determination. He added that 'Arafat has welcomed any Arab efforts to resume the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, affirming that the solution of the Palestinian issue can only be achieved through a unified Arab stand and a convocation of an international conference to be attended by all the concerned parties, including the PLO and the two superpowers.

The source said that 'Arafat also stressed the need to make efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war and to halt its escalation, affirming that only the enemies of the Arab and Islamic nation led by the Zionist entity are benefiting from its continuation, which causes great losses for both warring parties and undermines security and stability in the region.

PLO's Qaddumi Grants Interview, Makes Statements

Hungarian TV Interview

LD202312 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1950 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Interview with Faruq Qaddumi, member of the PLO Executive Committee, by Budapest television reporter Alajos Chrudinak; from the "Panorama" program; date and place not given — recorded in Arabic with superimposed Hungarian translation]

[Text][Chrudinak] The terrorist acts committed most recently in Vienna and Rome are still in the focus of attention. Hungarians were also injured in these attacks. What, in your view, is the objective of these terrorist attacks? What are they meant to achieve?

[Qaddumi] If you are referring to this kind of action or to similar actions, I have to tell you that the PLO has nothing to do with these actions. For many years now we have been pursuing a policy which since 1974 has condemned all acts of terror. We only support armed struggle which takes place on territory occupied by Israel. But, you know, the Palestinian people have been dispersed to all corners of the world and are living under various political and social conditions. So we are incapable of supervising and keeping under control the entire Palestinian people. We cannot lead all of them. But tell me, what are prisons for in all the countries of the world? Because not a single state can rule everybody, the entire people. Why, for example, does terrorism exist in the FRG? and what about the Japanese Red Army group?

[Chrudinak] It seems to me that these Palestinian terrorists and the other anarchist and terrorist groups strive to provoke an armed conflict between the United States and the USSR. As these people only believe in the power of arms they think that a world catastrophe, a world revolution, would solve all problems. According to their anarchist slogans and convictions the worse the situation is the better it is for them. Do you agree that this is why they carry out these actions?

[Qaddumi] No, no, I do not agree with you. I think we can hardly accuse them of creating situations which provoke a conflict between the USSR and the United States, because the United States and Israel are themselves the main causes. they are the ones who create conditions which lead to conflict with the USSR.

[Chrudinak] Does this mean that you do not agree with Yasir 'Arafat who said that Syria and Libya were behind these actions, as they are the ones who support Abu Nidal's group?

[Qaddumi] That is an entirely different matter, I haven't said a word about that. But I think that we must not exaggerate the picture in which we put this figure, Abu Nidal. International terrorism has been in existence for years, centuries. Piracy at sea was once like that. I do not mean to say by this that he does not commit acts of terror. On the contrary. But I have to call attention also to the dangerous terrorists who keep the peoples terrorized. Abu Nidal was once a member of Fatah. Then our court condemned him. This is a verdict which goes back some time.

[Chrudinak] He was sentenced to death.

[Qaddumi] I do not remember the verdict precisely but he was expelled from the Fatah movement for good.

[Chrudinak] How and by what means could you fight against terrorist acts together with us? How could these be checked?

[Qaddumi] First of all, we must put an end to the fundamental political, social, economic and military causes which serve as a hotbed for the perpetration of such terrorist acts. In my view one of the fundamental causes is the occupation by Israel of Arab territories.

[Chrudinak] In the past 3 years I argued a great deal with Yasir 'Arafat in television interviews with him. I criticized his political direction, namely his rapprochement with the United States, Egypt and Jordan, and his estrangement from Syria and the USSR. But now it seems that this policy has failed, as you have not accomplished anything that 'Arafat had set as a goal. On the contrary, Jordan has tricked you because it suddenly made peace and came to an agreement with Syria. And we all know how hostile your relations are with Syria. Where, in your opinion, does this policy of 'Arafat lead? Can we really say that it has failed?

[Qaddumi] First of all, I do not agree with the way you pose this question. The statement that we pursue a policy of rapprochment with the United States is inaccurate, because I do not believe that Yasir 'Arafat could ever believe that he had the possibility of rapprochement with the United States. But we all believe that the Middle East crisis must be settled on the basis of UN resolutions dealing with the Palestinian question, at an international conference which would also be attended by the United States. And as regards our joint political activities with Jordan, well Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn signed a joint work protocol. I wish to note here that even within the PLO many people opposed this joint work protocol, but after a long debate...

[Chrudianak, interrupting] If my information is correct, you also opposed the signing of this agreement.

[Qaddumi] The majority of the PLO leadership were in favor of the work protocol and this must be respected by everyone. Yes, I was also against that move.

[Chrudinak] But the Arab left alleged this would lead to a separate deal, that you would come to an agreement with the United States and Israel under pressure, that the PLO was making increasingly big and significant concessions. So the people who criticized this policy opposed, in a sense, a separate deal.

[Qaddumi] You talk about the people who opposed it. But I was the first person to oppose the Amman agreement. So why do you talk of others? I opposed it, but not for the reasons you have just stated. My opinion was that we should turn directly to the 7-member committee set up at the Fes conference.

Second, I said that we, the PLO, should not create an atmosphere that could be easily misunderstood. I say that the target of the crisis with Syria was Yasir 'Arafat, but unfortunately its aim was to take over the PLO. Believe me, I have more than a little experience in these matters. I am the same age as many Arab leaders, with whom I lived through a lot of things. I know them well.

[Chrudinak] Do you mean to say that Syria, the Syrian leadership, is simply not willing to accept, will not accept, the person of Yasir 'Arafat?

[Qaddumi] This business must not be turned into a problem of personality, namely, that I like this person and do not like the other. What I say is that I wish with all my heart that relations should be restored but I also know how difficult it is to restore them. I have no illusions because there are indeed issues which Syria must renounce because they have nothing to do with the essence of what concerns us.

[Chrudinak] For example?

[Qaddumi] Matters of a personal nature, which have nothing to do with politics.

[Chrudinak] But the Syrians always say that it is Yasir 'Arafat who is following mistaken tactics and who pursues the wrong policy. Can you imagine that to make up and come to an agreement with Syria, 'Arafat might make concessions to Syria on certain issues? Is this possible?

[Qaddumi] This is something that we are not willing either to debate or to discuss. This topic cannot be the subject of discussion for us. Yasir 'Arafat has fought for the cause of the Palestinian people from the very beginning. Thus, he cannot be insulted in such a humiliating manner. This is something that we cannot accept under any circumstances.

[Chrudinak] You recently visited the Soviet Union and held talks with the Soviet leaders. What sort of possibility does the Soviet Union perceive at the present time for the solution of the crisis? What is the view in Moscow concerning the disagreements between you and Syria and the Amman agreement? Yasir 'Arafat told me last time we met in Baghdad that he would have liked to meet the Soviet leaders. He complained that he, personally, had not been invited for 3 years by them. How would you explain this coolness on the part of the Soviet leadership toward Yasir 'Arafat?

[Qaddumi] I do not think that in reality one can speak of any sort of alienation in connection with a specific person or leader. But, at the same time, Brother Yasir 'Arafat has visited Moscow on many occasions.

[Chrudinak] Some people are saying that Yasir 'Arafat will be invited to Algiers for treatment in a sanatorium for a year or two and that during this time you would be entrusted with the leadership of the Executive Committee. According to this, a collective Palestinian leadership would be established under your leadership.

[Qaddumi] Look, the truth is that these rumors are intended to create a tense atmosphere in the Palestinian movement. Thank God, 'Arafat is in good health and is carrying out his work very actively. He must continue this activity. It is simply unacceptable and there is no rational basis for us to tell a fighter such as 'Arafat, leave off the struggle for a while and you can continue it later on. If we were to accept this, this would mean that he would find himself outside the arena of the struggle and could not return to it.

[Chrudinak] Do you think it possible that an international conference on the Middle East will soon convene, with the participation of the Soviet Union and the PLO, to settle the crisis?

[Qaddumi] The United States and Israel are preventing the convening of this international conference, whose task is the solution of the Middle East crisis. They are voicing unacceptable preconditions. This means that, unfortunately, Washington is not dealing seriously and responsibly with this issue.

[Chrudinak] So it will not convene in the near future?

[Qaddumi] I do not think that this international conference will be convened in the near future.

[Chrudinak] This means that America continues to deploy the Camp David tactic, in other words, it is trying to promote separate agreements.

[Qaddumi] Yes, yes, it is urging direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan. Incidentally, on 24 December the White House spokesman, who reports at the end of each year on U.S. diplomacy, said that the United States had reached an agreement with Jordan and Israel that there would not be either joint

Palestinian-Jordanian-U.S. or a Palestinian-U.S. dialogue. Let [word indistinct] Reagan and those who follow him go to hell.

[Chrudinak] So you concur with the idea that Jordan might conduct separate negotiations with Israel?

[Qaddumi] No, I cannot envisage that. But if Syria were willing to sit down at the negotiating table with Jordan and the PLO to work out another solution, one that would promote the peace process, then we would be available.

[Chrudinak] Is there any hope of that coming about?

[Qaddumi] This is what we are saying and this is what we are endeavoring to achieve. The future will tell whether this endeavor of ours will end in success or failure.

Statement on UN Resolution

F201703 Manama WAKH in English 1520 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Manama, 20 Mar (WAKH) — Head of the PLO Political Department Faruq Qaddumi said that the U.S. will not agree on an international peace conference even if the PLO recognised UN 242 Resolution.

The U.S. agreed on an international umbrellah with the participation of the Palestinians, not the PLO, he added.

In a statement to Bahraini daily *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* published here today Qaddumi said that the U.S. is adopting an inimical attitude against the Palestinians.

"Recognising the UN resolution means recognising Israel without getting our legal rights," he added.

Regarding the Palestinian armed struggle, Qaddumi asserted that the armed struggle will be limited to within the occupied territories while the political and the diplomatic struggle will be continued as usual.

He affirmed that the PLO will continue its efforts to achieve Palestinian national unity and Arab solidarity.

Speaks on Syrian Position

LD202159 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1406 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] London, 20 Mar (KUNA) — Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, said that the Syrian stand towards the organization "has improved compared to what it was previously" and it has taken tangible steps forward.

In a statement to *AL-'ARAB* newspaper published here today in Arabic, he expressed his hope that Syria will take great steps towards settling the differences existing between it and the PLO.

Faruq Qaddumi, currently on a private visit to Britain, affirmed that Syrian conditions for the resumption of relations have disappeared: "The way is being paved towards establishing good relations with Syria" but he said "that the matter needs a strong impetus particularly because of the current deterioration in the Arab situation."

He indicated that "this impetus necessitates a pan-Arab meeting after which relations between Syria and the PLO would move forward."

Regarding the aims of his current visit to Britain, Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] said "the main goal is to meet our friends in Britain; particularly the leader of the opposition Labor Party Neil Kinnock and other British leaders."

He affirmed that the British stand towards the Palestinian question "has not changed for years."

Concerning the Egyptian mediation for a peaceful solution, Abu al-Lutf said that Egypt, shackled by Camp David, has reduced its political weight and its international and Arab standing. He pointed out that the PLO is eager to cooperate with Egypt to destroy the results and shackles of Camp David and the shortcomings which resulted from it.

The Palestinian official also affirmed that the PLO agrees to an international conference in which the two major powers, the parties concerned, including the PLO, will participate on an equal footing, within the framework of the United Nations and on the basis of its resolutions which are related to the Palestinian question.

Qaddumi said that this should lead to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and to the return of refugees, the realization of the right to self-determination for the Palestinian people without any foreign interference.

With regard to recent French elections and the probability of a change of the French position towards the Arabs, Abu al-Lutf expressed his hope that the French attitude will improve after the elections vis-a-vis the Arabs and towards Israel and the United States.

Significance of Cairo Attack 'Clear' to All

JN202039 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Revolutionary Egypt, the Egyptian revolution, or let us say Egypt, has claimed responsibility for the Cairo international fair operation, which resulted in the killing and wounding of four Zionists. This is the third attack on the Zionist enemy representatives in the Egyptian capital. These deadly operations, in addition to the Sulayman Khatir operation in Sinai, are eloquently saying: Egypt will not tolerate the presence of the Zionists, but will shake from time to time and in various forms. It will revolt against enemies of Egypt, be they an army, a diplomatic corps, or a tourist group.

And regardless of the circumstances that might chain Egypt, starting with the peace treaty, passing through the U.S. wheat shipments, and ending with the bitter Arab reality, Egypt — state and people — will be able to continue to voice its Arab-Palestinian-Egyptian views in the appropriate manner.

Therefore, those who want to learn a lesson should understand that no attempt to contain the Palestinian cause will succeed no matter how great, many-sided, or documented this attempt might be. All the fog that is enshrouding this fact cannot hide it or limit its potency. This issue concerns Egypt. No side in Egypt must be asked to shoulder what it cannot bear. We cannot belittle the efforts of any side in this great country. Egypt is tied to the Palestinian territory and people. It is bound to the just Palestinian cause by an unbreakable bond.

This issue is related to the Palestinian territory and people. No matter how difficult the circumstances, how tight the siege, and how closed the outlets, the Palestinian people will find an extension of themselves coming out of this or that Arab spot and from this or that Arab heart. This extention will remain a strategic depth for the Palestinian struggle and the Palestinian morale until the horizon broadens.

It is an issue that concerns the Zionist enemies and those behind them. There will be no peace for anyone unless a just peace is established for the Palestinian people. Regardless of its size, no enemy territory will be stable unless the Palestinian people settle on the Palestinian land. All the invasions, the faits accomplis, and the signatures on these faits accomplis will not wipe out truth and justice.

We are not giving this event more importance than it deserves. We are just explaining the significance of the event, which is clear to all those who want to learn a lesson from it.

Forces Attack Enemy Intelligence Personnel

JN201814 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] A spokesman of the Palestinian revolution forces' general command has stated the following:

After monitoring and surveilling enemy intelligence personnel, fighters from the martyr Kamal 'Adwan group planted remote controlled explosive charges in the Al-Qatamun quarter of occupied Jerusalem. At 0500 today, an enemy vehicle emerged from the intelligence center and approached the charges which our fighters then detonated, killing or wounding all enemy personnel in the vehicle and destroying the vehicle.

The occupation authorities immediately sealed off the area and began an arrest campaign involving dozens of Palestinian citizens under the pretext that they were connected with the operation.

Revolution until victory.

Signed: The Palestinian revolution forces general command.

Lahd Forces Shelled With Katuyusha Missiles

JN201927 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese resistance men yesterday shelled a military position of the agent Lahd forces near the Al-'Ayshiyah village in southern Lebanon with Katuyusha missiles. The shelling greatly damaged the position and killed or wounded a number of agent elements. The joint forces yesterday detonated an explosive charge under a military patrol belonging to the agent militias in the town of Dayr Mimas in southern Lebanon. One miliary vehicle was destroyed, a Jeep was damaged, and a number of agent elements were either killed or wounded.

Ministers To Submit 'Specific' Cutback Proposal

AU201945 Paris AFP in English 1940 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 20 (AFP) — OPEC oil ministers will submit a "specific" proposal to five non-OPEC producers here Friday [21 March] concerning cutbacks in crude oil production, OPEC's current president Arturo Hernandez Grisanti said Thursday.

He said there was so far no agreement on production cuts by the 13 OPEC countries. Delegation sources said OPEC ministers agreed to ask the five Third World Nations — Mexico, Oman, Malaysia, Egypt, and Angola — to reduce their output by a combined total of 0.3 million barrels a day (MBD).

The five countries' overall output last year was estimated at 4.7 MBD.

Mr Hernandez Grisanti declined to give details of the proposal before it had been presented to ministers or senior officials of the five countries at a meeting scheduled here tomorrow.

The OPEC president said that "One cannot deny that this conference is a very difficult one."

But he said the 13 OPEC countries were willing to continue their talks "until we can reach a solution" in line with the magnitude of the problems facing the organisation.

He said Thursday's talks focussed on total production ceilings and individual national quotas, but gave no further details.

Iraq Rejects Quota; Saudis Refuse 'Swing' Role

AU201901 Paris AFP in English 1847 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 20 (AFP) — The Iran-Iraq war cast a long shadow over the emergency conference of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries today as the 13 countries made a renewed effort to establish common ground on production cutbacks to bolster crude oil prices.

Iraq threw a spanner into the works by rejecting as insufficient and "unfair" the production quota allocated to it when the 13 oil producers set a joint limit on their output in 1983.

The ministers were tonight also looking at possible solutions to the special problems facing debt-ridden Ecuador and Nigeria.

Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister, according to delegation sources, meanwhile reaffirmed that Saudi Arabia was no longer prepared to play the part of a "swing producer" adjusting its output according to swings in demand for OPEC oil.

Conference sources said there were indications that the Saudis were keen on maintaining their output as close as possible to their quota of 4.35 million barrels a day [MBD] under OPEC'S 16 MBD production ceiling which was formally maintained last December when OPEC ministers decided to give priority to securing a "fair share" of the world market.

Production Figures Focus of Morning Session

LD201411 Kuwait KUNA in English 1250 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 20 (KUNA) — OPEC oil ministers completed a morning session of talks and would reconvene for further discussions late in the afternoon, conference officials said Thursday [20 March].

The ministers met for over two hours. It was their first full session since the five-man OPEC ministerial committee had seen their five non-OPEC counterparts on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the 18 OPEC and non-OPEC experts early afternoon were continuing their session, which had been running uninterrupted for more than three hours.

Gulf conference sources said that the ministers had been discussing production figures, and that output levels ranging between 13 million barrels and 17 millions had been studied.

African sources claimed that some of the Gulf producers wanted to end the meeting on Friday or Saturday, and to reconvene after several (? weeks).

This view was opposed by [passage indistinct] could not afford to leave Geneva without a decision having been made.

BAHRAIN

Weekly Discusses Bush's Upcoming Visit to Gulf

GF201044 Manama GULF MIRROR in English 20-26 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] The United States vice-president, George Bush, is set to visit the Gulf next month to demonstrate U.S. interest in security of the region. New flare-ups of hostilities in the six-year-old war between Iran and Iraq and the recent fighting between opposing Marxist group in South Yemen will feature high on the vice-president's discussion agenda. Bush's visit from April 3 to 12 will take [place] in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman and North Yemen.

Details of his itinerary are expected to be announced later. The U.S. Embassy in Bahrain said the exact date of his visit to the island was not being revealed yet for "security reasons."

White House Spokesman Larry Speakes said Bush would hold talks with leaders of the four countries of the "implications for regional security of intensification of fighting between Iran and Iraq and of recent events in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen."

"The United States has significant strategic interest in the region and has important bilateral relations with the countries the vice-president will visit," he said.

In Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Oman Bush will review how U.S. cooperative efforts can contribute to the Gulf Cooperation Council's (GCC) defensive capabilities.

Weekly Notes Death of 'Glubb Pasha'

GF201054 Manama GULF MIRROR in English 20-26 Mar p 4

[Text] Sir John Bagot Glubb, who died on Monday aged 88, wielded enormous influence in the Middle East for more than a quarter of a century with a reputation rivalling that of his legendary British compatriot Lawrence of Arabia.

Until his dramatic dismissal as head of the Arab Legion in 1956 by Jordan's young King Hussein, he was one of the best-known Britons in the region, a dashing figure in Arab headdress.

Nicknamed 'Abu Haneik' — Father of the Little Chin — because of a scar from a World War I wound, he played a pivotal role in quelling troublesome tribesmen from Iraq to Jordan and bringing stability to much of the region.

As commander of the Arab Legion for 17 years, Lieutenant General Glubb also built up one of the strongest armies in the Middle East, earning the title Pasha, a mark of high respect.

But all this came to an end in 1956 after Glubb Pasha fell foul of the rising tide of Arab nationalism. Expelled from Jordan, he returned to Britain almost destitute but he never lost his love of the Arab and argued in books and lectures in favour of Jordan and the Palestinians.

Glubb withdrew from public life and went to live with his wife in southern England.

But he had been largely forgotten in Jordan. 'Glubb Pasha is little remembered by Jordanians, except by retired Bedouins who served under him,' said one Amman official.

Born on April 16, 1897 at Preston in northwest England, John Bagot Glubb was the son of a soldier. He went to the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich and won a military cross for bravery during World War I.

Two years later in 1920 he volunteered for service in Iraq and it was during this period he formed his lasting attachment for the desert Bedouin, learning Arabic and their customs.

In 1926, Glubb resigned his commission to become a government official and was credited with helping to bring about peace between Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

He was asked in 1930 to work in the British mandated territory of Trans-Jordan. Made second in command of the Arab Legion, he organized special 'desert patrols'-- initially dubbed 'Glubb's girls' because of their flowing robes and traditionally long hair.

Like T.E. Lawrence, Glubb exerted almost magical influence over the desert tribesmen, adopting Arab dress to win their confidence.

KUWAIT

Amir Returns From 1-Day Visit to Saudi Arabia

LD202120 Kuwait KUNA in English 1411 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 20 (Kuwait) — His highness the amir returned home Wednesday afternoon from Saudi Arabia.

During the single-day visit to the Kingdom, his highness the amir met with the Saudi monarch King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz at his spring resort in the eastern area.

The amir was received at the airport by the crown prince and prime minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah.

Paper Notes Talks With Amir on Region

GF201836 Manama WAKH in English 1518 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwaiti daily *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* Thursday affirmed that the current situation in the region calls for cooperation and coordination between the GCC member states in general, and between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, in particular.

The daily commented on H.H. the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad's visit to Saudi Arabia yesterday, and said the visit took place in view of the current mounting tension in the region, and Iranian threats, which concentrated recently on Kuwait and Saudia. ["Saudia" as received]

The paper added that if such threats took place under the pretext of oil, such an excuse which claims that the oil price crisis was caused by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia is not acceptable.

Iran knows very well that industrial countries are the only ones which are responsible as they always plan to find ways to hit the OPEC and to turn the oil from a strategic weapon to a consumption commodity, the paper explained.

The daily pointed out that although oil is very important, yet here in the region its importance comes second, because the Gulf war is of prior concern in the region.

The stability and the security of the Gulf states have been threatened now more than any time before, and they are the responsibility of the peoples and states of the region, it reiterated.

Affirming the Gulf solidarity, the daily said the current meeting between H.H. the amir and Saudi King Fahd, aims mainly at controlling the developments in the region.

The daily [passage indistinct] Kuwaiti meeting will emerge with positive results.

OMAN

KUNA: Kuwaiti Official, Delegation Conclude Visit

LD201017 Kuwait KUNA in English 0846 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Muscat, March 20 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Interior Undersecretary Major General Yusuf al-Kharafi, left here Thurdsay concluding a three-day visit to Oman.

Al-Kharafi stated prior to his departure that his visit came as means of strengthening brotherly ties and cooperation between the two countries in the security fields.

Al-Kharafi, who was seen off at the airport by senior Omani officials, was accompanied by a high ranking delegation.

During his visit here the Kuwaiti official held talks with Omani Interior Minister Badr ibn Su'ud ibn Harib and also met with other Omani officials.

Al-Kharafi was in Bahrain before his visit to Oman. His tour aimed at boosting security cooperation between Kuwait and the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

PDRY

Nu'man Sends Message to USSR CPSU Member Ryzhkov

GF201538 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the YSP Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has sent a written message to Comrade Nicolay Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Politburo and chairman of the Presidium of the Council of Ministers in the friendly USSR, dealing with a number of issues relating to cooperation between the two friendly countries and the means to expand relations.

The Council of Ministers chairman gave the message to Comrade Vladislav Zhukov, USSR ambassador in Aden. They reviewed the implementation of projects in the framework of bilateral cooperation and the efforts USSR and Yemeni experts are making in order to implement the Yemeni-USSR projects.

QATAR

Papers Criticize U.S. Maneuvers in Mediterranean

GF201540 Manama WAKH in English 1510 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Manama, 20 Mar (WAKH) — Two Qatari newspapers condemned American maneuvers off the Libyan coast as part of constantly hostile provocations against Libya.

Every Arab can't help but condemn the intransigent stand America has taken against an Arab state and strongly denounce a super power resorting to such practices against a small developing country, *AL-RAYAH* said.

In its editorial today *AL-RAYAH* said these U.S. actions do not contravene international laws and principles of international policies only but also contradict what America repeatedly says about itself and its policies.

AL-'ARAB newspaper said "with this America wishes to pull Libya into a war to achieve what it failed to gain from the freezing of Libyan assets and imposition of an abortive economic blockade. [quotation marks as received]

Any provocation against Libya is a provocation against all Arabs, similarly any aggression against Libya is an attack against all Arab states, *AL-'ARAB* said. But if Washington was serious about combating terrorism it is more beneficial to send its fleets to Israel, the hot bed of terror in the region, and quit justifying the savage Israeli atrocities.

SAUDI ARABIA

Amir of Kuwait Departs After Visit to Kingdom

GF201616 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 20 Mar (SPA) — Amir of fraternal Kuwait Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah left the Kingdom today for home.

Paper on Visit, Regional Developments

GF200904 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] In an editorial carrying the title "The Riyadh Meeting and Gulf Developments", the newspaper *AL-NADWAH* comments on the visit to the Kingdom by His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, amir of Kuwait, and his meeting with His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The paper affirms that the meeting has special significance because of the emergency circumstances in the region.

The paper says: Since the Kingdom and Kuwait have defined their policy concerning developments in the region within joint GCC policy based on continuous efforts to emphasize the spirit of good neighborliness, reconciliation, and renunciation of violence and warfare, intransigence and threats cannot be the way to achieve coexistence in the region.

The paper adds: Although consultations between the leaders of the GCC countries in the past centered on the attempt to reconcile parties, instill a spirit of Islamic fraternity and agreement, and end the conflict, the latest developments give the GCC countries the right to adopt the necessary preparations to confront any developments within the framework of self-defense as peace efforts continue by all possible methods, proceeding from a solid conviction that peace is the way to the region's stability.

In conclusion, *AL-NADWAH* says: The leaders of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, with their well-known wisdom and foresight, are making every effort to achieve the desired goal and adopt the measures they deem appropriate to confront all emergencies and new developments. The paper noted that Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, possess, in cooperation with the brothers, all of the necessary energies and abilities for this purpose.

UAE

President Receives PLO's Yasir 'Arafat

GF201016 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] His Highness President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, received at Al-Khaznah guesthouse, Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, who is visiting the country.

During the meeting, they discussed all aspects of the current Arab situation in light of the new developments concerning the Palestinian issue on the Arab and international levels. They also discussed the situation in the Gulf, the recent escalation in the Iraq-Iran war, and efforts to end this war by peaceful means, in addition to the fraternal relations between the PLO and the UAE.

KUNA: Delegations To Be Exchanged With USSR

LD211158 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1034 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Moscow, 21 Mar (KUNA) — Responsible official sources at the Soviet Foreign Ministry here today confirmed that an official delegation from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will arrive in Moscow next month, while a Soviet diplomatic delegation will leave for Abu Dhabi in the next few days in the framework of steps being taken by the two sides regarding the selection of a building for each of the two countries' embassies in the other country.

In a statement to KUNA, the sources said that the Soviet delegation will include members of the Soviet Embassy due to be opened in Abu Dhabi, among whom there are two diplomats who have previously worked in the Middle East.

The same sources revealed that a Soviet ambassador to the UAE will be appointed very soon. However, they declined to reveal his name. Meanwhile they considered it unlikely that Pogos Akopov, current Soviet ambassador to Kuwait, would be transferred to Abu Dhabi to become the head of the diplomatic mission there.

Papers Criticize U.S. Maneuvers Off Libyan Shores

GF200900 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0615 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Mar (WAM) — In their editorials today, the newspapers *AL-ITTIHAD* and *AL-KHALIJ* describe U.S. insistence on holding maneuvers opposite the Libyan coast for the fourth time as a form of terrorism and provocation against an independent state. The papers wonder about the nature of the appropriate Arab response to this provocation.

AL-ITTIHAD says that the United States continues to practice acts of provocation and terrorism against Libya and continues to insist on sending its warships into the Libyan Sidra Bay and its warplanes over Libyan shores without any justification except provocation and terrorism. The paper points out that "U.S. insistence on imposing terrorism and provocation is restricted to Arab countries, and is mainly aimed at Libya."

The paper affirms that U.S. bias toward Israel makes it behave arrogantly toward the Arabs "imagining that such behavior gives it an image of a strong country capable of imposing its hegemony and control over the world in general and the Arab world in particular."

The paper urges the United States to realize that the language of the age has changed "and the phase of colonialism has ended, all forms of European colonialism have failed, and the phase of U.S. hegemony and the acts of repression, terrorism, and parading of strength must inevitably end and fail."

In conclusion the paper affirms that Libya will resist U.S. aggression and that all of the Arab countries will support Libya "as they have always stood together at critical moments of the Arab nation's history. U.S. provocation and terrorism will not achieve their goals against Libya and the Arab nation."

The Al-Shariqah based newspaper *AL-KHALIJ* states that the new U.S. provocation conceals "a predetermined intention for aggression by a great power against a small country that refuses to submit to the conditions of U.S. policy and does not accept being a protectorate in the empire of U.S. interests that are spread all over the world."

The paper urges the international community to condemn this open U.S. provocation, which is tantamount to aggression "since by such provocation Washington makes a serious precedent that threatens the entire structure of current international relations."

The paper wonders what prevents other countries from carrying out aggression against small countries if one of the two superpowers gives itself the right to perform such aggression against an independent state which is a member of the United Nations.

The paper urges the Arab countries to adopt practical measures to make the United States realize that an aggression against any Arab country would prove costly to its interests and that it must desist from provoking Libya and must pull its fleets from opposite the Libyan shores.

The paper points out that earlier the Arab countries condemned, through the Arab League, the U.S. aggression and threatened to adopt appropriate measures to confront such aggression in the event it takes place. The foreign ministers of Islamic countries also condemned the aggression. The paper says "Washington has publicly announced that its fleet would enter Libyan waters and that its planes would fly over them. What will those who threatened to take appropriate measures do now?"

Further on Aftermath of Shooting of Israelis

Mubarak Sends Message to Peres

NC211112 Cairo MENA in English 1054 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has expressed sorrow to Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres over the killing of an Israeli young woman. In a message President Mubarak sent to the Israeli premier and delivered today by Israeli Minister of Tourism Avraham Sharir, the president pledged to find those responsible for last Wednesday's aggression on the four Israelis.

Meanwhile, Peres received Avraham Tamir, director general of the Israeli Prime Minister's Office and one of the Israeli chief delegates to the Tabah talks, who submitted to him a report on the recent round of talks which wound up in Cairo yesterday.

Tourism Talks Open

NC201339 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1310 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — Discussions on Egyptian-Israeli tourism began today. The meeting was restricted to the two delegations representing the Egyptian and Israeli tourism organizations. Obstacles in the way of tourism were discussed at this meeting.

The Egyptian and Israeli delegations are scheduled to hold another session this afternoon. It will be attended by Tourism and Civil Aviation Minister Fu'ad Sultan and Israeli Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir.

Mubarak Meets Israeli Minister

NC201424 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1208 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — Following President Mubarak's meeting with the Israeli minister of tourism, Avraham Sharir, Egypt's minister of tourism, Fu'ad Sultan, said that President Mubarak offered his sincere condolences to the Israeli Government over yesterday's incident. He noted that it was the work of an extremist minority that has absolutely nothing in common with the character of the Egyptian people. Minister Sultan pointed out that investigations into this episode are still in progress, and God willing, the authorities will arrest the criminals.

The minister of tourism added that President Mubarak's meeting with the Israeli tourism minister reflects the depth of the president's interest in Egyptian-Israeli relations. He stated that such incidents would have no effect on the continuation of peace between the two countries.

During the session, certain obstacles impeding the flow of tourists from Egypt to Israel were also discussed. The president gave instructions to have these barriers removed immediately and declared that there should be no travel restrictions between Egypt and Israel.

Continuing, Fu'ad Sultan touched on bilateral trade by pointing out that the principles of import rationalization that Egypt applies to other countries are applied to Israel as well without discrimination. He added that Egyptian-Israeli relations are normal, like the bonds between Egypt and Western countries.

In addition, Dr Sultan noted that the Dayr al-Sultan Monastery was another subject raised at today's session. President Mubarak said this issue must be solved. Otherwise, Israel should not expect to see any tourists from Egypt.

The Israeli minister of tourism noted that during the meeting, President Mubarak emphasized that yesterday's incident will have no impact on bilateral ties. He stated that the president highlighted the need to strengthen relations between the two countries.

Lutfi, Sharir Discuss Shooting

NC202057 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2025 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — This evening, Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi received Israeli tourism Minister Avraham Sharir in his office. During the meeting, the prime minister expressed regret at the incident in which four Israelis were involved that took place near the Cairo International Fair. He offered his condolences to the family of the woman who was killed. Dr Lutfi asserted that the Egyptian Government will be persistent in pursuing the criminals and bringing them to court.

Dr Lutfi stressed the importance of resolving the Dayr al-Sultan issue. Sharir and Lutfi discussed ways to promote Israeli-Egyptian tourism. Attending the meeting were Tourism Minister Fu'ad Sultan, and Moshe Sason, the Israeli ambassador in Cairo.

Fair Pavilion Operating 'Normally'

NC201438 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — The Israeli pavilion at the Cairo International Fair was operating normally today after being provided with Egyptian employees from the fair organization, who replaced the Israelis who had been working there.

Officials at the Israeli pavilion have not asked the authorities at the Cairo International Fair to take any extraordinary measures at their building, which will remain open until the exhibition closes tomorrow. However, stricter security precautions now are in effect around the Israeli Pavilion.

The Peugeot used by the four Israelis who were fired on yesterday is still parked in the spot allocated for states participating in the fair. There are traces of blood inside, particularly on the front passenger's seat. This was most likely occupied by an Israeli security official who tried to shoot at the criminals.

Sources at the Israeli pavilion said today that the girl who died yesterday and who was sitting behind the driver, had worked as the cultural attache's secretary at the Israeli Embassy in Cairo a year ago. She was 23.

Israelis To Join Investigation

NC210723 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The major news item in the Arab and international sphere is the operation carried out by a group of Egyptians against Israeli embassy employees at the Cairo fair. The Egyptian authorities yesterday gave permission for an Israeli team to take part in the investigations into the attack. Meanwhile, the Egyptian and Israeli governments have made a point of stressing that the incident will not affect relations between them.

AL-AHRAM Condemns Attack

NC210808 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0645 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — *AL-AHRAM* has vehemently condemned the painful incident that claimed the life of an Israeli woman and led to the wounding of three other people working at the Israeli pavilion at the Cairo International Fair. Judged by any criteria this incident is both criminal and despicable, the paper states, and any attempt to give it a political or ideological hue is futile and will not convince anyone.

In its editorial today, the paper emphasizes that this crime will not affect Egyptian and Israeli determination to continue the peace agreements that have been signed and which have the consent of the peoples of both countries. These agreements express common hopes of achieving security and stability in the region.

The paper adds: Those people whose sick imaginations make them believe that they are firing their bullets at the peace process are mistaken. The peace option offered in Egypt and Israel is the only one able to achieve security and safety for our two countries and for the region as a whole. The paper also emphasizes the transitory nature of this incident that will not affect the continuing joint action process between the two countries to eliminate all obstacles to normalization and to strengthen all aspects of bilateral relations. The paper notes that this is evidenced by the talks which the Israeli minister of tourism held in Cairo only few hours after the incident and the decision made by the Israeli delegation to the Tabah talks to continue negotiations with Egypt in this city.

AL-AHRAM notes that Egypt did not hesitate for a moment to condemn the criminal incident and to express its determination to pursue and punish the perpetrators of this crime.

Further on Progress of Talks Over Tabah Issue

Talks Resume in Cairo

NC201632 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] The Egyptian-Israeli Tabah talks resumed today at the experts' level, with the participation of the United States. The conferees discussed topics related to the international arbitral compromise to resolve the Tabah dispute. The Egyptian-Israeli discussions began yesterday and are expected to be completed tonight.

'Reasonably Good Progress' Made

NC201818 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1725 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — This afternoon, the Egyptian-Israeli Tabah talks resumed in Cairo, with the participation of the United States. The final evening session of the fifth round of these talks lasted about 2 hours. The Israeli delegation will leave Cairo later this evening for Israel.

Minister Plenipotentiary Mahmud 'Uthman, the spokesman of the Egyptian delegation, stated after the session that the Egyptian and Israeli sides had agreed to hold the next round of Tabah talks during the middle of next week in Israel, where they will continue discussing the subjects pertaining to the arbitral compromise. 'Uthman said in a statement to MENA that the conferees made reasonably good progress on several procedural elements of the arbitral compromise. However, there is still a gap between the Egyptian and Israeli positions on other matters, particularly on the question that should be posed to the arbitrators.

David Kimche, Israeli Foreign Ministry director general, stated that the talks are proceeding well, but that there are still obstacles centering on this question posed to the arbitrators.

He noted that during the session Israel proposed some candidates for arbitrators, but the sides did not reach agreement about them. Kimche pointed out that the conferees agreed to use English as the language of arbitration and Geneva as the headquarters of the arbitration team on the Tabah issue.

Israelis Return to Tel Aviv

NC202158 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — Israeli Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir left Cairo this evening, following a 2-day visit to Egypt. The Israeli delegation to the Tabah Talks, held at the experts' level in Cairo during the past 2 days, also left Cairo for Tel Aviv.

David Kimche, who led the Israeli delegation, stated that these talks were positive and that they dealt with various topics. He added that there is still a difference of opinion on formulating the questions that will be addressed to the arbitrators. He noted that the negotiations will resume in Israeli next week.

Commenting on the armed attack against the four Israelis in Cairo yesterday, Kimche said that it will not affect the negotiations. He thanked the Egyptian Government for the efforts being made to investigate the incident. The body of the Israeli victim killed in the attack was on board the plane that was returning the Israeli delegation to Tel Aviv.

Further on Visit by Jordan's King Husayn

Husayn, Mubarak on Talks

NC201738 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1652 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — King Husayn of Jordan has called the timing of his meeting with President Husni Mubarak important, as far as the Arab region is concerned. The king pointed out that this meeting provided an opportunity to discuss all aspects of the situation and the development of events in the Middle East region.

In statements to reporters after his approximately 4-hour conference with President Mubarak, the Jordanian king said that the president briefed him on all regional developments and on the various views.

The monarch noted: It is clear that we are all interested in achieving a just and durable peace in the region, for the benefit of the coming generations. The king added: But it is clear also that we have suffered a serious setback in our current efforts in Jordan. It could be said that at present we have reached a dead end. We and all the concerned parties in the area are now observing a period of contemplation.

Answering a question on the future of the peace process after Jordan's decision to stop political coordination with the PLO, King Husayn said: The situation is as you see it; there is nothing new.

Replying to another question, the Jordanian king observed that the issue of resuming negotiations with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat was not discussed during his meeting with the President today.

Asked again about what they had discussed, King Husayn answered: We viewed all important points on the situation in the Arab world. We also conferred on Jordanian-Egyptian relations, which are exemplary, praise be to God.

At the outset of his statements, the Jordanian King expressed happiness at being in Egypt again and at meeting with his brother President Mubarak.

President Mubarak was queried about the results of his discussions with the Jordanian king. He replied: I believe that what His Majesty King Husayn has said is sufficient. His majesty's statements nicely summarize our discussions.

Husayn Leaves Cairo

NC201532 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1525 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — King Husayn of the Hasemite Kingdom of Jordan and his accompanying delegation left Cairo this afternoon at the end of a short visit. His majesty was seen off at Cairo International Airport by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

Jordanian Armed Forces Commander Arrives

NC201427 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1240 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — Staff Lieutenant General Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, arrived in Cairo this afternoon aboard a private plane. Major General 'Umar Hammad, commander of the Central Military Zone, welcomed him at the airport.

'Arafat To Visit Cairo 'Within Next Few Days'

NC211301 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] PLO representative in Cairo Al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim has told our correspondent that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will visit Cairo within the next few days. He will meet with President Husni Mubarak to review developments in the Middle East region and in the Palestinian issue. They will also discuss matters related to an international conference to solve the Middle East problem on the basis of a comprehensive and just peace that will guarantee the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

Mubarak Hails Visit by PRC President Li Xiannian

NC201629 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Following the conclusion of the Chinese president's [Li Xiannian] official visit to Egypt, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak expressed his appreciation of the trip. He described it as a visit by the head of a friendly nation with which we have strong ties. He said: China is one of the Third World's great states, which we admire and respect. We began our contacts with China many years ago. Egypt was the first Arab or African country to recognize China, and our relations date back to 1956. The formal bonds between us will be 30 years old in May. No state in the region has such relations. I have made several trips to China, and have returned each time in better spirits due to my appreciation of China's people and leaders.

Al-Mahjub Holds Talks With Soviet Officials

NC201241 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1120 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub today received a visiting Soviet parliamentary delegation led by Pavel Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The two acting speakers of the People's Assembly, the head of the Foreign Relations Committee, the leader of the opposition, the leader of the Labor Party, and the head of the Transport and Communications Committee attended the meeting.

Gilashvili declared that his country is eager to expand relations with Egypt in all spheres. He added that these relations are currently developing satisfactorily to the benefit of the Egyptian and Soviet people, who are linked by ties of cooperation and friendship, as epitomized by the High Dam.

Gilashvili said that 27th Congress of the CPSU stressed that it was necessary to bolster Egyptian-Soviet relations. This requires a constant exchange of views between the two countries.

He expressed his country's readiness to cooperate with Egypt in the field of electricity generation by nuclear power and in electronic industries.

Gilashvili said that the Soviet Union still adheres to its consistent stand on the Palestinian issue. The Soviet Union calls for the achievement of a comprehensive settlement on the basis of Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied in 1967. It believes that an international conference, with the participation of all the parties concerned, is the best forum for achieving such a settlement. Moreover, the Soviet Union will restore relations with Israel only after the latter withdraws from the occupied territories.

Gilashvili noted that his country supports all efforts to end the Iraq-iran war. It is a futile war and not in the interest of the Iraqi and Iranian people. The continuation of this war encourages foreign intervention in the Arab gulf.

He expressed the Soviet leadership's regret over the deepening rift among the wings of the PLO.

Dr al-Mahjub declared that the development of relations between the Soviet Union and Egypt will proceed from the history of good relations between the two countries and continuous meetings between their officials. Egypt is eager to develop these relations so as to serve the mutual interests of the two peoples.

Publication of Haykal Article Reportedly Banned

PM200921 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 11 Mar 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal's Third Article Banned"]

[Text] *Al-SHA'B* has learned that Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal's articles in *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* were not well received in ruling political circles. This is the reason why the publication of his series of articles has stopped. *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* Chief Editor Ibrahim Sa'dah had said that from the beginning Haykal decided that he would not write weekly but would write an article or articles from time to time depending on the ature of the subject he was discussing. But it is observed that Haykal's current series of articles was supposed to consist of three parts, and only two parts have been published. *Al-SHA'B* has learned that the third part had actually been delivered to Ibrahim Sa'dah.

Unrest Due to Too Little, Not Too Much Religion

PM200939 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 11 Mar 86 p 10

[Muhammad 'Abd al-quddus "Countrymen" column: "Islam and the Soldiers' Mutiny"]

[Text] The importance of applying the Islamic shari'ah in building our country is evident in two words. They are: precaution and remedy. I am almost certain that if we really adhered to our religion's teachings the police mutiny would not have assumed such proportions. This is not sentimental talk or the words of "dervishes." It is a scientific fact. The reasons for what happened are due in my view to three things, all related to religion. They are, first, a lack of religious teaching and awareness. Had the mutineering policemen indeed been religious, they would not have carried out this destruction and sabotage. A true Muslim cannot express his protest in this manner. Setting fire to public places and destroying automobiles and buses is not the character of Muslims. Muslims have the right to protest, but such protest should be peaceful as far as possible. Those responsible for the police did not care to inculcate religious awareness among the soldiers; instead they sought to diverst them of all good upringing and turn them — especially the Central Security Forces — into mere beasts that hit and kill.

The police troops' revolt has revealed an alarming fact. A great injustice was being done to them; their salaries were meager and they were badly treated to the point that some of them were used as servants in the officers' homes. Our religion rejects injustice. If religion had truly been followed, this thing would not happened. Contrary to what some people think, Islam is not just prayers and rules to be applied or a hand or foot to be amputated. It is a whole life based on justice and compassion.

Our religion is against deviation. The manifestations of corruption in our country are numerous — the nightspots on Al-Ahmram Street are a den of such corruption. The angry masses have set fire to them. Some people are persistently trying to blame this on religious people. Never: This is not true. The ordinary people are angry at what is going on there, but they expressed their anger in a wrong manner. I condemn this, but I justify it. When poverty, injustice, and corruption meet in one place, then an explosion is bound to occur.

Saddam Husayn Inspects Army Training Camp

JN201807 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1718 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Mar (INA) — Staff Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, has inspected a camp for training fighters and witnessed a tactical exercise with live ammunition carried out by the fighters who mounted an assault on a mock enemy position, clashed with the enemy, and purged the position with great efficiency.

President Saddam Husayn gave his directives, indicating the importance of concentrating on tactical exercises which enable the fighters to fight under the most difficult natural and weather conditions and to adopt the necessary measures to help the fighters attack enemy positions, occupy them, and entrench themselves in them without making sacrifices for inflicting massive losses on enemy personnel and equipment.

The fighters pledged to exert their utmost efforts and sacrifice blood for the sake of safeguarding the cherished soil of Iraq and teaching the Iranian enemy bitter lessons so that the heinous enemy aggression can be decisively repulsed and Iraq's flag can continue to flutter with pride and glory.

Trade Minister Receives U.S. Delegation Leader

JN201254 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, received George Norman, member of the national council for U.S.-Arab relations and his delegation this morning.

During the meeting, which was attended by the U.S. ambassador in Baghdad, they reviewed the relations of economic, trade, and technical cooperation between Iraq and the United States and ways to promote them.

Oil Minister Receives Turkish Delegation

JN201151 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Mar (INA) — Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi, Iraqi oil minister and head of the Iraqi side to the Iraqi-Turkish joint committee for economic, trade, and technical cooperation, met with Ekrem Pakdemirli, Turkish treasury and foreign trade under secretary of the Prime Minister's Office and deputy head of the Turkish side to the committee, and his accompanying delegation here today.

During the meeting the two sides discussed cooperation between Iraq and Iran in the sphere of oil and energy and ways of promoting this cooperation.

Light Industries Minister Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah also met with Pakdemirli and his accompanying delegation this morning. Discussions during the meeting dealt with bilateral cooperation.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Spokesman on Raids on Iranian Bridges

JN211100 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1034 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Air Force will continue to be the sword which will never be sheathed and which will remain brandished in the face of the covetous aggressors. The valiant eagles have decided not to allow the enemy any breathing room and not to leave them any facility which they may use for their designs of aggression.

After our able Air Force destroyed the (Al-Tahiri) bridge on the Karun River which the enemy was using to bring in its forces and other supplies, the frustrated enemy tried to compensate for this loss by establishing two bridges, the first for infantry troops and the second for vehicles northeast of Al-Muhammarah [Khoramshahr]. Our Air Force was lying in wait for the enemy. No sooner had the enemy completed the two bridges than our planes carried out a devastating raid at 0720 [0420 GMT] today, turning the small bridge for infantry troops into debris which was scattered in the air and completely destroying the large bridge for vehicles, setting it ablaze.

After carrying out their duty, the valiant eagles safely and triumphantly returned to the homeland, protected and guided by God.

[Dated] 21 March 1986

Lloyds Cited on Cypriot Tanker Hit

JN201631 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] London, 20 Mar (INA) — The British Lloyds Insurance Company has affirmed that a Cypriot oil tanker called *(Superior)* was hit by a missile south of Khark Island. In a cable received by the INA office here today, Lloyds said that no details were known concerning the fate of the 134,011-ton tanker, which was built in 1973 and operates under the management of the (Trodus) Trade and Shipping Company Limited in London.

Earlier, an Iraqi military spokesman said that Iraqi fighter planes raided a maritime target near the Iranian coast today, scoring accurate, effective hits.

Seized Iranian Weaponry Displayed

JN201550 Baghdad INA in English 1529 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Al-Sulaymaniyah (northern Iraq), Mar 20, INA — Large quantities of Iranian weaponry, military equipment and hardware, seized by Iraqi Armed Forces during the liberation of the northern Iraqi border heights at Chuwartah last week, were publicly put for display here today.

The displayed weaponry included tanks, trucks, artillery, tube launchers and different kinds of military hardware.

Communique No 2,156

JN201744 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,156 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 20 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The victorious Iraqi forces continue their combat activities with high morale and efficient performance, implementing with great enthusiasm the will of our great people to wipe out the aggressors and purge the land of their filth and impose the will of justice and the logic of wisdom and peace.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. On the VII Army Corps front: The valiant Al-Rashid and northern columns continued to pound the aggressors and inflict massive losses on them all night long yesterday and today. They were effectively and continuously supported by our heroic Air Force, bold helicopter gunships, brave Navy, and capable artillery.

2. Our Air Force planes continued to sow death among the aggressor forces, destroying their weapons and equipment in 164 combat missions against enemy positions, troop concentrations, and supply lines. They also carried out the following missions:

a. At 0910 [0610 GMT] today our planes launched an air raid on a large maritime target near the Iranian coast, scoring an accurate and effective hit.
b. At 1135 today our planes dealt an accurate and effective blow to another large maritime target near the Iranian coast.
c. At 1300 today our planes launched a violent raid on the television relay stations in the Shadegan area, scoring accurate hits and destroying them.
d. At 1304 today other planes raided the Shadegan gas station, destroying it and setting it ablaze.

After carrying out all these missions, the brave eagles of the air returned safely to base in God's care and protection.

3. Our naval force, the honest and strong guard of our waters and shores, is playing a prominent role in cutting off the enemy's supplies and inflicting massive losses on it. It is also lending excellent support to our brave ground forces. With the help of God and the determination of the brave men of the sea, the following tasks were carried out:

a. At 0055 today [2155 GMT 19 March] our Navy accurately hit and destroyed a bridge set up by the enemy in Ra's Abadan.
b. At 0139 today [2239 GMT 19 March] two large maritime targets were accurately and directly hit near the Iranian coast.
c. At 0140 today [2240 GMT 19 March] a very large maritime target was accurately and directly hit near the Iranian coast.

After carrying out all these tasks, our naval units returned safely to base. God bless the brave men of the sea. Praised be God for His support.

4. The tough cavaliers of the helicopter gunships continue to destroy enemy weaponry and equipment as well as enemy positions and troop concentrations, inflicting massive losses in 90 combat sorties, after which they returned safely to base.

5. It is world Zionism which is urging the Tehran rulers to continue the war and helping them to continue their aggression against free Arab Iraq. No matter how much the charlatans lie, the truth will inevitably be revealed to the whole world because armament cooperation between the Zionist entity and the regime of charlatans is an undoubted fact. The disreputable Arabs joined this alliance between the two regimes, thus disclosing their agentry and stand on the side of the nation's enemies against the Arab liberation and pan-Arab awakening movement.

Our forces in the heroic I Army Corps found some hardware dispatched by Al-Qadhdhafi's regime. It also found among the seized weaponry six monitoring devices made in the Zionist entity. Our forces seized the following weapons, in addition to those mentioned in our statement yesterday, Wednesday, 19 March 1986: a) three 60-mm mortars; b) two bulldozers; c) one excavator; d) thirteen Kalashnikov rifles; e) one hundred and forty-eight GC rifles; f) two Strella launcher devices along with 16 rockets; g) twenty-three RPG-7 launchers; h) two RPK machineguns; i) thirty-four radios of various types; j) seven telephone exchanges of various types; k) eleven field telephones; l) three jeeps; m) one water tanker; and n) very large quantities of various types of ammunition.

6. An enemy force led by an officer tried to approach our positions in the I Army Corps northern sector. Our brave fighters from the valiant Al-Haris Forces confronted them and managed to kill five soldiers and capture the officer. The rest took to their heels. God bless you, men of the heroic I Army Corps.

7. The criminal enemy shelled the city of Al-'Uzayr, the suburbs of Khanaqin, and the village of Biyarah with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 March 1986

Hizballah Official Denies Involvement in Kidnapping

PM201427 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic
19-25 Mar 86 pp 16,17

[Interview with Shaykh Ibrahim al-Amin, senior Hizballah official, by Zaki Shihab in Beirut; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Shihab] What is your attitude to the question of the French and American hostages?
[Al-Amin] We have nothing to do with this subject. The quarters that have declared their responsibility for this action are known by their name; the matter concerns them. Hizballah has nothing to do with the question of the kidnapped Frenchmen. French policy, particularly in the past few years, has created tension between France and the peoples of the area. With regard to relations with Israel, for example, we find that President Mitterrand visited it 2 months before the invasion of Lebanon. The visit was a clear and explicit sign of the French decision to draw closer to the Israeli line. The French stand, then, was in harmony with the U.S. stand in the scandalous aggression committed through "Multinational Force." The result was that the French military presence within that force contributed to the Sabra and Shatila massacre. The question that arose then was: Why did France come and what was the reason for its withdrawal. There was then the aggression against the Muslim people in Ba'labakk by French aircraft. Over and above this, France has been giving military and nonmilitary aid to certain parties in the area. In our view, France and the United States are the biggest exporters of terrorism in the world. They are among the countries that have created a sense of injustice among peoples of the area. It can be said that France's policy is responsible for all that is happening, including what is happening to the French people.

[Shihab] What steps is France required to take in order to change its attitude?
[Al-Amin] It should change its policy in the area whether with regard to both the question of Israel, and the Iraq-Iran war, and the question of Lebanon and the interest of Muslims. France now is a major colonialist power. What we would like to see is some kind of peaceful relations between it and the peoples.

[Shihab] You insist on denying Hizballah's involvement in the kidnapping of the Frenchmen. How do you explain the desire and keenness shown by those concerned to meet with you and seek your views?
[Al-Amin] The media — especially the American and the French media — wish their countries to take some kind of action in the future. So they need to pinpoint certain matters to justify the carrying out of such future action. Hizballah is honored to be a party hostile to Israel, the United States, and French policy. If France or the United States wishes to exploit such incidents and blame them on the Muslims, to give themselves the pretext to carry out any aggressive action in the future, then we welcome them now and in the future.

[Shihab] What is the Shari'ah's interpretation of the kidnapping of foreign diplomats and journalists?
[Al-Amin] The question concerns those who carried out the kidnapping. Let them be asked about the question of the Shari'ah in this matter.

[Shihab] What is Hizballah's attitude to this subject?
[Al-Amin] I have already said that we have nothing to do with subject of kidnapping.

[Shihab] Has any French envoy contacted you?
[Al-Amin] No. They know that we will not contact them.

[Shihab] Has [French envoy] Razzah Ra'd contacted you?
[Al-Amin] He was in Damascus, then he came to Beirut. His problem has nothing to do with me.

[Shihab] He came to Beirut and contacted certain unknown quarters. Do you know the reasons that prompt the kidnappers to meet him and contact him?
[Al-Amin] Being a Lebanese person with acquaintances and friends in Lebanon, it is natural and quite ordinary for him to meet with people, regardless of the question of the kidnapped Frenchmen.

Group Claims Paris Bombings, Threatens Italy

NC211108 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] A spokesman for the Committee for the Defense of Arab and Middle East Political Prisoners in Europe, who wished to remain anonymous, told Voice of the Mountain a short while ago that his group was responsible for the series of explosions in Paris, the latest of which took place on the Champs Elysees yesterday. According to the spokesman, French citizens are the dispensable victims of their government's policies, which are hostile to the aspirations of the Arab people and all Third World countries for liberation and independence. He added: Although we regret the death of innocent people, whether they be French or any other nationality, our committee nevertheless holds the French authorities responsible for any repercussions resulting from the continued detention of our strugglers in French prisons. Either George Ibrahim 'Abdallah, Varoujan Garbidjian, and Anis al-Naqqash will be freed, or there will be more bombs and victims in the streets of Paris. The spokesman emphasized the committee's rejection of any negotiations with the French Government before the detainees have been released. He also affirmed that the committee was not responsible for the detention of any Frenchmen in Lebanon. The committee also issued a warning to the Italian Government to release the strugglers Joseph 'Abdu Sarkis and 'Abdullah al-Mansuri, who have been wrongly detained for more than 1½ years. If this demand is not met, then the committee has threatened to subject the streets and citizens of Rome to the same scenes witnessed in Paris. It is worth noting that yesterday's explosion on the Champs Elysees resulted in 2 people being killed and 30 others wounded, some seriously.

Further Reports on Fighting in South

'Resistance' Hits Israeli Patrol

NC201354 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The Islamic Resistance has declared its responsibility for the operation that took place against a Zionist enemy patrol in

Haris this morning. A statement issued by the Islamic Resistance said: An Islamic Resistance group carried out a heroic operation in the Haris area this morning against a Zionist enemy patrol. A halftrack vehicle was completely destroyed and six Israeli soldiers were burned inside it. The enemy was enraged by this operation and besieged the group for 2 hours. The group later withdrew with God's help.

'Fierce Fighting' in Haris Area

NC201551 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Fierce fighting took place at the southern entrance to Haris at 1400 today, pitting Israeli enemy forces and agent Lahd's militiamen against members of the resistance. The resistance fighters managed to foil the enemy's attempt to enter the village, which prompted him to deploy on the hills overlooking Kafra and Haris. An Israeli mechanized unit tried to advance toward Haris this morning, but was intercepted and driven off by Amal Movement fighters. The Israeli enemy made another attempt, and violent fighting erupted on the southern approach to Haris. At noon, the clashes spread to the vicinity of Kafra, Yatar, Zibqin, Siddiqin, and Wadi al-Nafkhah. Mechanized forces and infantry arrived in the area to reinforce the enemy and agent Lahd's militia. Supported by helciopters, they combed the region under cover of intensive artillery fire, which was directed mainly at Haris and Kafra. UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel has announced that Irish UN forces prevented an agent militia patrol from moving into Haris and that this led to some shooting. According to reports, Shaqra, Yatar, Sribbin, and the Haris woods have been the targets of heavy shelling since this afternoon.

2 Lahd Officers Killed

NC210957 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text]The Israeli enemy this morning shelled the towns of Jarju', 'Arab Salim, Humin al-Fawqa, and Habbush from its artillery emplacements on the hills of Sujud and Al-Suwayda'. The roads leading to the aforementioned towns have also come under intensive sniper fire, thus rendering their use risky. In another development, a resistance group ambushed two Lahd militia officers near Qal'at al-Shaqif. The resistance men detonated an explosive charge at the roadside. The officers were immediately killed.

More Clashes Reported

NC211009 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Reports from the south indicate that fierce fighting has been taking place since 1130 between the National Resistance men and citizens on the one hand, and the occupation forces and agent Lahd militiamen on the other, in the area of Mlikh and Al-Luwayzah. There have been several attempts to enter the two towns and their neighborhoods. The clashes were still going on when this newscast began.

Further on Fighting in Beirut, Al-Matn Areas

Sporadic Fire-Fights Erupt

NC201933 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The security situation on the science college and Al-Laylakah combat lines suffered a setback from 1930 until 2000 today, when an exchange of fire took place, involving rockets and large-caliber machineguns. Sniper fire hit neighboring residential quarters, and intermittent shooting is still taking place on these lines. Tension on the Al-Shiyah, Al-Tayyunah, and Mar Mikha'il combat lines eased at 1915, when a cease-fire went into effect. Earlier fighting involving mortars and tank guns had broken out on these lines. Three people have reportedly been wounded. A sporadic exchange of sniper fire is taking place on the lines of the old commercial center in Beirut. The situation is noticeably tense on the upper Al-Matn combat lines, following violent clashes that broke out at nightfall. The clashes on the mountain combat lines have eased in intensity, following an exchange of shellfire. Shells have fallen in the peaceful neighborhoods of 'Alayh.

Syrian Gunmen Ignite Flare-Up

NC210936 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Syrian Social Nationalist Party gunmen and their allies have caused a flare-up in the situation along the traditional combat lines in upper Al-Matn. The Army units were compelled to return fire. Fierce clashes broke out in the Al-Duwwar, Al-'Ayrun, and 'Ayn al-Tuffahah areas. The fighting was still raging when this news summary was prepared.

Cease-Fire Attempt Fails

NC211046 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1015 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The areas of Biskinta, Al-Shabbuq, Al-Mazar, al-Mayyasah, Zabbugha, Bikfayya, Al-Dul, and 'Ayn al-Abu are still being subjected to various types of shellfire originating from Bulunya, Duhur al-Shuwayr, Mar Ilyas Shwayya, Kafr Silwan, Tarshish, Majdal Tarshish, Falughah, Sannin, and Al-Za'rur. Our correspondent reports at 160- and 130-mm artillery, 120-mm mortars, rocket launchers and Grad missiles are being used. Clashes involving the use of tanks are now raging along the combat lines in Al-'Ayrun, Tallat Mar Ilyas Shwayya, Al-Duwwar, Shrin, and 'Ayn al-Tuffahah. Syrian Social Nationalist Party gunmen were instructed to take up combat positions on the battlefronts shortly before the shelling started. Efforts were made by the parties concerned to reach a cease-fire. It was agreed that a cease-fire would go into effect at 100. However, the areas of Bikfayya and Zabbughah were still coming under intermittent shellfire at 1135.

Further Reportage, Commentary on Cairo Attack

Shamir on Safety of Israelis

TA202000 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] This evening Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said we have had enough of Egypt's promises about the safety of the Israelis there and we expect President Mubarak to keep his commitment to safeguard our people in Cairo.

Sharir Commends Mubarak Attitude

TA201605 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Interview with Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir on the telephone from Cairo, by Dan Margalit in the studio — live]

[Text][Margalit] Good evening. I understand that you are still in Cairo and you have just come out of a talk with President Husni Mubarak. Did President Mubarak promise you anything regarding the future of the Israeli presence in Cairo?
[Sharir] Before that, Dan, could you tell us how the wounded Israelis are doing?

[Margalit] We have been told that all three of them are in stable condition and it is hoped that the one who was operated upon in Egypt will not have to undergo further surgery. They are not in danger and this is the best piece of news under the circumstances. Now, let me ask you again: What did President Mubarak promise you?
[Sharir] We had a long talk this morning with President Mubarak and the Egyptian prime minister. The president expressed his sorrow and shock over last night's incident, which has also affected them very deeply. He promised me that they will do everything in their power to apprehend the culprits.

In the course of the talk a remark was made by the Egyptian tourism minister, which was seconded by the president and which I consider very important, to the effect that the perpetrators of the crime against the Israelis in Cairo, this time as well as in the past, were not Egyptians. My deep impression was that both the president and the members of his Cabinet are very interested in continuing peaceful relations and enhancing normalization. In this respect, they view yesterday's incident as very dangerous.

[Margalit] Mr Sharir, if I understood you correctly the Egyptians believe that the murderers were not Egyptian. Were they thus suggesting to you that they may have been Palestinian?
[Sharir] All sorts of conjectures were voiced in our private talks. However, the very fact thay they claimed that the perpetrators were not Egyptian....

[Margalit — interrupting] How do they know? Do they have any leads?
[Sharir][Words indistinct] his and their attitude toward the peace treaty. The president talked to me, and in a very short while I am going to confer with the foreign minister and later with the prime minister, about the need to maintain and enhance the peace treaty or, as President Mubarak put it, to cement the peace [last four words in English]. He reiterated this point several times. When I observed that during my visit to the Israeli pavilion yesterday I was told there is great interest in Israeli goods but that there were impediments, he immediately ordered that all restrictions be lifted and that Israel be accorded the same status as any other country or, in other words, goods will be purchased only according to economic considerations. He said the same regarding the restrictions on those Egyptians who apply for permission to visit Israel. The Egyptian tourism minister reiterated this point later in an interview on Egyptian television. Later in the afternoon, he repeated the statement in an address to Israeli and Egyptian tourism officials. This is very important to us.

[Margalit] Mr Sharir, at this point I must ask you about the security arrangements. After the previous incident in which Israelis were attacked there was talk about changing the license plates of our diplomats' cars and so on, but it seems this was not done. Were you promised that this would be done in the future?
[Sharir] I did not go into the security arrangements during my visit here. However, I was told that they would make special efforts on this issue. As I understood, they regard this as a very serious incident which affects them because the regime is affected by flawed security arrangements. Again, I want to reiterate that it was my clear impression that the issue of peace between Egypt and Israel and the promotion of relations in all fields is very important to them. At this point, I think we should take a very positive view of this fact.

[Margalit] Mr Sharir, I understand that you have cut short your visit in Egypt and you are expected back in Israel this evening. Thank you for talking with us.

Tourism Minister Curtails Visit

HK210522 Hong Kong AFP in English 0427 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Jerusalem, March 21 (AFP) — Israeli Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir arrived here Thursday night after cutting short an official visit to Egypt because of Wednesday's attack in Cairo that killed one Israeli and wounded three others. Mr. Sharir had arrived in Cairo earlier in the day and had planned to stay for several days, sources close to the minister said. He had meetings with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister ‘Ali al-Lutfi and Foreign Minister ‘Ismat ‘Abd al-Majid during the brief visit.

The body of Eti Tal‘or, the young woman killed in the attack, was brought back to Israel on the same flight as Mr. Sharir for burial Friday. David Kimche and Avraham Tamir, leaders of the Israeli delegation to talks with Egypt on the disputed Tabah enclave, were also on the plane, having just concluded the latest series of negotiations with Egyptian officials.

Tabah Delegations Disagree on Compromise, Arbitrators

TA210542 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2000 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The next round of Tabah talks will take place next week in Israel. This was decided by the Israeli and Egyptian delegations at the end of the fifth round of talks held in Cairo. At the end of the meeting the heads of the two delegations announced that several main questions remain under dispute. Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche said that question of the contents of the arbitral compromis has not yet been agreed on, and the sides also disagree on the question of whom to appoint as arbitrators.

Jerusalem Arabic Commentary Condemns Cairo Attack

JN201546 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World
1435 GMT 20 Mar 86

["Observation" by Yusuf Ya'qub]

[Text] Judging by all the legal and humanitarian standards, values, and concepts, yesterday's treacherous attack on Israelis working at the Israeli pavilion at the Cairo fair is a heinous crime against unarmed civilian women and men -- a lowly, dastardly act deplored by all men with a conscience. We are not going to talk about the measures that have been taken or the steps that should be taken to apprehend the perpetrators of this crime and prevent the repetition of such murders. No doubt the Egyptian authorities are exerting their utmost to this end. However, the question that should be asked is: What is the aim of those responsible for this grotesque crime and what do those who stand behind the ones responsible and express jubilation over the outrage hope to achieve? Do the planners of this crime imagine that killing unarmed men and women can kill the peace between the Egyptian and Israeli people? Do they imagine that by killing a woman and wounding three other persons they can assassinate the peace march in the region?

Those who perpetrated the crime and those who stand behind them are greatly mistaken if they think that the treacherous bullets that shed innocent blood near the Cairo international fair can kill the peace or assassinate the peace march. These were not the first bullets fired with the aim of killing peace and the peace march. While it is true that these bullets as in the past have killed dear and beloved people, they have not only failed to realize the hopes of the sick-minded and the evildoers, but have also been and will always remain a strong incentive to all the forces of good and peace in both Egypt and Israel to exert further efforts to entrench peace and deepen its roots.

As expected, officials in the two countries, while denouncing the crime and its sinful perpetrators, have affirmed that this deplorable deed will not harm the two countries' relations, and that work is underway to promote these relations, strengthen cooperation, and intensify efforts to advance the cause of peace.

'Sources' Claim Most Soviet Ships Leave Mediterranean

TA201825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Sources in Israel say that most of the Soviet warships sailing in the eastern Mediterranean Sea have recently left the region. Only one Soviet ship remained in the area, apparently an intelligence ship. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal points out that the ships had arrived in the area and sailed mainly near the coastline of Syria. They may have left because the Soviets decided that the tension in the region has decreased.

Two 'Senior' ASL Officers Killed by Roadside Bomb

TA210630 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0600 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] It has been learned from reports emanating from Lebanon that in the incident that occurred two nights ago, terrorists killed two senior army of southern Lebanon [ASL] commanders. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the two had been on their way to a meeting with their commander, General Lahd. They were ambushed near the Beaufort Castle by terrorists who activated a bomb planted at the side of the road, and were killed on the spot.

UNIFIL Reinforced; Unidentified Casualties Reported

TA201620 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] There were heavy exchanges of fire this afternoon on the security strip border between positions of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] and terrorist squads. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the incident began near the village of Yatir, and several unidentified bodies are lying in the area, but they cannot be rescued because of the heavy fire.

According to one version, the incident began when ASL soldiers identified a terrorist squad trying to infiltrate southward and they opened fire at it. The UNIFIL spokesman has said the terrorists set an ambush and attacked an ASL armored personnel carrier. Late this afternoon the ASL personnel used artillery and tanks and UNIFIL positions near the village of Haris were also hit by the firing. The Irish, who man these positions, rushed reinforcements in and returned fire.

Further Details

TA201809 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Four terrorists were killed today on the edge of the security zone when they were making their way southward to carry out a terrorist attack. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the terrorists encountered a patrol of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] at the mouth of a stream in the western sector and were killed in the ensuing exchanges of fire. During the shoot-out, the ASL opened fire with cannons and tanks which also hit UN positions near the village of Haris. Soldiers of the Irish contingent manning these positions called for reinforcements and returned the fire.

Intelligence Ties Al-Asad Speeches to Domestic Needs

TA202010 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The intelligence establishment believes that President al-Asad's sharp speeches over the past few days are aimed more at domestic needs, because of the economic crisis, than at raising the tension in relations between Syria and Israel.

Limitations Imposed on Golan Druze After Rioting

TA201229 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Limitations have been imposed on the movement of 75 Golan Druze who rioted during the prime minister's recent tour of their villages. Our correspondent Yo‘el Dar reports that the Nazareth District Court has instructed that this group of Syrian supporters not be permitted to leave their village without prior notification to and permits from the police. They were also forbidden to remain outside their homes from sundown to sunrise until the legal procedures against them have been concluded.

Syria's sympathizers on the Golan Heights have complained that ever since the demonstration, stiff measures have been taken against their villages: Roadblocks have been erected on the access roads to their villages to allow body searches to be conducted, certain plots of land have been cordoned off, and vehicles are subject to searches. Israel's supporters in the region, on the other hand, have maintained that their opponents are harassing them. They called upon the government to take even firmer measures against them.

HA‘ARETZ on Palestinian ‘Fighters’ in Lebanon, Syria

TA191104 Tel Aviv HA‘ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by Re‘uven Pedatzur]

[Text] More than 17,000 fighters dispersed among Arab countries are available to the Palestinian terrorist organizations. The largest number of these fighters, approximately 8,000, can be found in Lebanon. Nearly 1,000 Palestinian fighters affiliated with ‘Arafat and the rejectionist organizations have already taken up positions in the vicinity of the refugee camps near Sidon. It should be noted that ‘Arafat's supporters have been cooperating with Junblatt's Druze fighters, and that in the Sidon area they also cooperate with their opponents, members of the rejectionist organizations, in a bid to create a united front against common enemies such as Amal.

Approximately 500 members of the Palestinian organizations can be found in Egypt, some withinb the framework of the Palestine Liberation Army, and others as administrative employees in ‘Arafat's organization. Close to 3,000 Palestinians belonging to the Salvation Front organizations can be found in Syria.

AL-SHA‘B Rejects ‘Improvement of Quality of Life’

TA191720 Jerusalem AL-SHA‘B in Arabic 17 Mar 86 p 1

[Editorial: "This Scratched Record"]

[Text] Israeli authorities are again playing the old, scratched record about improving and raising the quality of life of the West Bank and Gaza Strip residents. It is noteworthy that the playing of these tunes is connected to particular seasons. This becomes apparent when Shim‘on Peres or other Israeli officials are on the verge of paying visits to the United States or Europe, as well as when Israel tries to pave the way for implementing suspicious political plans in the occupied territories.

We recall very well that the term "improving the quality of life" was raised prior to Peres' first visit to the United States and a few weeks after he assumed the Israeli permiership about a year and a half ago.

We also recall the tremendous outpouring of Israeli statements and propaganda on this issue, with the aim of turning world public opinion away from the central problem facing the Palestinian people.

We remember also, in the acts and "achievements" of Peres' government, the meaning of the term "improving the quality of life" as has been demonstrated in the universities, the camps, and all parts of the occupied territories. When talk about "improving the quality of life" is renewed, this means that we should expect an escalation of Israeli practices in the occupied territories.

We should affirm, therefore, that this record and this shrewd escalation will not be able to change the fundamental reality as represented in the existence of the Palestinian people and their commitment to their legitimate rights of self-determination and establishment of an independent state.

Nusaybah: Israel Must Subsidize E. Jerusalem Corp

TA201120 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The East Jerusalem Electricity Corporation has again accused the Israeli Government of creating the $12-million debt it owes the Israeli Electricity Company.

Our correspondent Elihu Ben-Or reports that at a news conference held today by Chairman of the Board Anwar Nusaybah, Nusaybah announced that he will be bringing an international law expert to Israel to prove that the responsibility for subsidizing the corporation lies with the Israeli and not the Jordanian Government because Israel controls the territories. He again demanded that the government guarantee the sale of low-cost electricity to the corporation.

Court Hands Down Life Sentence to Gaza Murderer

TA201142 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1138 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The Gaza Military Court today handed down a life sentence to the murderer of Menahem Dadon from Netivot at the Gaza market 3 years ago. The murderer, a Fatah recruit, shot Dadon in the back, killing him. Dadon had been shopping in the market.

East, Central African Leaders Meet in Entebbe

EA201143 Dakar PANA in English 1047 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Kampala, 20 March (UNA/PANA) — The one-day summit of seven heads of state from East and Central Africa has opened in Entebbe, Uganda, to review matters affecting their region.

President Mohammad Siwar al-Dhahab of Sudan, whose plane was the first to touch down at Entebbe International Airport, arrived at eight am local time (0500 GMT), followed by Presidents Daniel arap Moi of Kenya, Jean-Baptiste Bagaza of Burundi, Juvenal Habyarimana of Rwanda, President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire and Ali Hassan Mwinyi of Tanzania respectively.

Soon after their arrival, the six heads of state led by host president, Yoweri Museveni, were led to State House Entebbe, where the summit conference is taking place.

Museveni Speaks at Summit Opening

EA202136 Dakar PANA in English 1607 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Entebbe, 20 March (UNA/PANA): President Yoweri Museveni, who is hosting the summit of seven east and central African heads of state, has called for greater regional cooperation in Africa, especially in transport, research and trade.

The president, who was opening the one-day summit, attended by President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya, Ali Hassan Mwinyi of Tanzania, Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire, Siwar al-Dhahab of Sudan, Juvenal Habyarinana of Rwanda and Jean-Baptiste Bagaza of Burundi, said Africans needed a wider market if they were to develop integrated economies. He called on African leaders to join the struggle which will make their people beneficiaries of Africa's resources which were and are still exploited by colonial countries to perpetuate Africa's technological backwardness and ignorance.

Today many thousands of Ugandans turned up at Entebbe airport to welcome Africa's leaders — the biggest gathering of them since the OAU summit held in Kampala in 1975.

On regional cooperation, the Ugandan leader observed that since there were already areas of cooperation like the preferential trade area, PTA, the Kagera River Basin, KBO and others, these should be expanded to cover other countries not represented at today's meeting. He hoped today's meeting will lay a strong foundation for further cooperation and development of the region. He said African countries were capable of joining the ranks of developed countries if correct policies and right visions were applied. The president again appealed to his fellow leaders in Africa to join hands in the struggle to save the people from much of the miseries resulting from ignorance and technological backwardness.

Turning to Uganda's situation, President Museveni said his government was committed to build an integrated, self-sustaining and independent national economy, adding that such a policy will require available markets in the region. He said his government plans to establish industries geared towards maximum utilization of the resources available locally to avoid reliance on goods imported from outside.

He criticised the colonialists who used Africa's resources for their own benefit, and appealed to his colleagues to find a way of stopping this trend so that the resources may be used to develop the indigeneous people.

African Commerce Meeting Opens in Cairo

NC171255 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 17 Mar (MENA) — Dr Muhammad Naji Shatlah, minister of supply and internal trade, opened the meetings of the General Assembly and Board of Directors of the Union of African Chambers of Commerce this morning on behalf of Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi.

The inaugural ceremony was also attended by Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali, minister of economy and foreign trade; Jeff Lawson, chairman of the Union of African Chambers of Commerce; Edifar Gigi, secretary general of the African Economic Committee; and 'Izzat Ghaydan, chairman of the Union of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Kurdish Party Leader

LD202347 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1848 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Mar (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution today received brother Mas'ud al-Barazani, the leader of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan who took part in the work of the second international conference on resisting imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction, and fascism which concluded its work the day before yesterday at the People's Hall in Tripoli.

Senegalese Envoy Delivers Message to Al-Qadhdhafi

LD202353 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received today (Baba Cardiob), the personal envoy of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf. He delivered a message to the brother leader of the revolution from the Senegalese president.

JANA Cites TASS Condemnation of U.S. 'Provocations'

LD202144 Tripoli JANA in English 1804 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow, Rajab 9, Mar. 20, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Soviet news agency TASS condemned today the U.S. hostile provocations against Jamahiriyah. TASS confirmed that the U.S. Government's hostility towards Jamahiriyah is due to "the anti-imperialist independent line this Arab country pursues and which Washington does not like". TASS elaborated that this hostile move against Jamahiriyah which coincides with a verbal terrorist campaign contradicts with the cause of nations' peace and security.

MAURITANIA

Chairman, Soviet Envoy Discuss Cooperation

AB201643 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Colonel Maaouiya Sid Ahmed Ould Taya, CMSN chairman and head of state, this morning received in audience the Soviet ambassador to Nouakchott, his excellency Ivan Spitskiy. Their discussions centered on international issues and those of common interest. After the audience the Soviet diplomat spoke to our reporter Alioune Souriba about the discussions he held with the head of state.

[Begin recording][Spitskiy] We reviewed the situation prevailing in the world and in the region as well as the relations existing between our two countries. We also discussed ways and means to further strengthen our relations in various fields. I sincerely thank the head of state who, despite all his activities, had agreed to receive me [words indistinct].

[Souriba] (?Could you) tell us about the current cooperation between Mauritania and your country?

[Spitskiy] It is fine. In fact we are simply trying to find ways and means to strengthen our relations in various fields. We hope that they will further develop in the future. [end recording]

SUDAN

Continuing Reportage on SPLM, National Alliance Talks

Alliance Rejects SPLM Delegate

JN201525 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Nairobi, 20 Mar (SUNA) — The situation deteriorated before the meeting scheduled today between the National Alliance delegation and John Garang's movement when all the representatives of the National Alliance delegation rejected the presence of Dr Mansur Khalid, a leader of the defunct May regime, as a member of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM].

Dr Nasir al-Sayyid, leader of the Islamic Socialist Party and chairman of the preparatory committee for the constitutional conference to be held during the transitional period with the partcipation of all political forces in the country, announced his party's withdrawal from the Addis Ababa meeting because the SPLM insisted that Mansur Khalid should take part in the meetings, despite the fact that the National Alliance delegation explained its stand rejecting Khalid's participation.

In a telephone conversation with the SUNA correspondent in Nairobi, Dr Nasir al-Sayyid said that the SPLM's attempt to impose Mansur Khalid would open the door for all criminals to enter the talks through the SPLM. He added that the SPLM's insistence on Khalid shows its true colors. He said Sudan wants peace, but with honor and not through capitulation.

Dr Nasir accused Garang's movement of placing obstacles before the National Alliance delegation many times before the talks started. He noted that the latest obstacle was including Mansur Khalid as a member of the SPLM delegation to the negotiations. He added that Mansur Khalid is responsible for many crimes committed by former President Numayri.

The SUNA correspondent in Nairobi reported that all members of the National Alliance delegation, who still hope that the talks will begin, have decided to issue a statement explaining their stand on Mansur Khalid's participation.

Talks 'Seem Doomed'; Garang Attends

HK210422 Hong Kong AFP in English 0246 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Koka, Central Ethiopia, March 21 (AFP) — Crucial talks between a powerful grouping of Sudanese political parties and trade unions and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) opened Thursday in this quiet Ethiopian resort about 100 kms (60 miles) due south of Addis Ababa, but their outcome seemed doomed from the start.

Bluntly and without mincing words, SPLM leader John Garang told the 26-strong alliance delegation and his own 24-man team that his movement could not discuss a cease-fire and that it rejected the general elections scheduled in Sudan for next month. "We cannot cease fire with you", he told the alliance delegates, "as you are not representatives of the (ruling) Sudanese Military Council. You can discuss it (a cease-fire) but you can get nowhere", he said.

He termed the elections an "absurdity", saying they were being organized for only a part of the country, the north, as the south was off-limits for the exercise for the time being.

Colonel Garang said the authorities in Khartoum were applying "a reverse process" in going ahead with the elections, which he said ought to have been preceded by a national constitutional conference in which the SPLM was a full partner.

The conference was formally opened by acting Ethiopian Foreign Minister Yilma Tadesse, a former ambassador to Sudan, in this bougainvillea-surrounded retreat for the rich. "I hope the serene environment of Koka would, in its own modest way, contribute to your joint search for solutions which would satisfy the yearning of the fraternal people of the Sudan to create a society wherein justice, freedom, equality and democracy shall prevail", he told delegates.

The conference was organized after a series of preliminary contacts between the rebels and representatives of the alliance, and was believed aimed at negotiating a cease-fire in the endemic civil war in south Sudan. The talks were also to pave the way for a constitutional conference of all political forces in Sudan to form what might have been a transitional national union government.

"Talking is good. They lead to more talk and more talks can lead to peace", the American-trained Col Garang said. This seemed to suggest that the National Alliance, having been instrumental in toppling former president Ja'far Numayri in April last year, had lost the initiative and surrendered the reins of power to the generals. A dialogue, but not negotiations, therefore appeared to point to the options Col Garang set for the talks.

The meeting, postponed three times, got off the ground on a rasping note when the 27th alliance delegate, Islamic Socialist Party secretary-general Nasir Sayyid, quit in protest at the seating of former Sudanese Foreign Minister Mansur Khalid on the side of the SPLM. Dr Sayyid told journalists that he was walking out because Mr Khalid was an "architect" and collaborator of the Numayri regime and was "wanted" by the authorities in Sudan. Mr Khalid broke with the government about three years ago and has since both joined the SPLM and published a book entitled: "Numayri — Revolutionary of Dis-May", an allusion to the May revolution that brought the ex-president to power in 1969.

His attendance as an SPLM delegate appears to have caused the three postponements. The rebels, however, saw the Sayyid argument as hypocrisy, since the generals at the helm in Khartoum were themselves senior Numayri officials.

Col Garang also told the meeting he had been late in arriving because he had been forced by the increasing offensives mounted by government troops against his forces to stay behind. "I had to shift troops and munitions from front to front", he said, accusing the authorities of having invited foreign intervention in the country. He said 50 bombs had been dropped on Rumbek, the town captured by the SPLM last week, in actions between March 13-15 by aircraft that were not Sudanese. The airplanes were TU-22's, he said. He did not name them, but Egupt and Libya maintain military pacts with Khartoum.

On the Khalid presence, alliance president Khalid Yagi said the issue should not be allowed to "compromise" the talks, irrespective of individual opinions of the man. He called on Sudanese to join hands to seize the opportunity as a forum for working together for Sudan's unity and political and socioeconomic development.

Addressing the opening session for almost three hours, a confident and humorous Col Garang virtually gave the delegates a lecture on the SPLM's vision of a new Sudan. He spoke of a unity irrespective of colour, creed or religion, that could create "a unique Sudanese civilization" which would ensure peace, progress and equality for all. He then withdrew from the talks altogether, saying he had competent lieutenants to pursue them.

Complaints Filed to Ethiopia Over Airspace Violation

JN201533 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Mar (SUNA) — Lieutenant General Taj al-Din 'Abdallah Fadl, deputy commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, stressed today that Sudan had filed a number of complaints to the Ethiopian Government through diplomatic channels concerning violation of Sudanese airspace on Tuesday, 18 March. The deputy commander in chief said that these planes had crossed Sudanese airspace carrying supplies to the forces of Colonel John Garang, commander of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army.

Garang Forces Receive Supplies

GF201829 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1710 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Mar (SUNA) — An official source at the Military Command of the People's Armed Forces has stressed that the Ethiopian military planes which crossed Sudanese airspace on Tuesday 17 March were four Antonov-12 transport planes. These planes have four engines. The source said that these planes flew over the Upper Nile Administrative Region then flew to the Bahr Al Ghazal Administrative Region and stayed for 1 and 3/4 hours in Sudanese territory. The source added that a fifth Ethiopian MiG plane had crossed Sudanese airspace on 15 March. The source indicated that the five planes dropped food and military supplies to the forces of John Garang, the commander of Sudan's liberation army.

Faction To Shoot Down Aircraft

NC201611 Paris AFP in English 1608 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Khartoum, March 20 (AFP) — The south Sudanese armed group Anya Nya II Thursday threatened to shoot down any Ethiopian aircraft bringing into the area anti-government rebels of its arch rival, the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

The threat coincided with a report in the Armed Forces weekly magazine that Ethiopian planes violated Sudanese airspace twice in the last week. It also came amid bids to organize peace talks in Ethiopia between Sudanese politicians and Trade Unionists and Col. John Garang's SPLA.

The statement issued by Anya Nya II said the group's field commanders had been ordered to shoot at Ethiopian moving targets in Sudan unless they "refrained from supporting SPLA terrorists." It branded the SPLA as "an Ethiopian militia" and Col. Garang as a "foreign stooge" and appealed to "all Sudanese patriots to settle their problems within a Sudanese context."

The statement charged that Ethiopia was committing genocide in southern Sudan through the SPLA and pledged it would not hesitate to "internationalize" the war if the Addis Ababa government "wants a confrontation with Anya Nya II."

The report in the Armed Forces weekly said an Ethiopian MiG-23 entered Sudanese airspace in support of the SPLA over the border town of Nasir in Upper Nile Region last Saturday, but reported that anti-aircraft fire "forced it to flee back into Ethiopian territory." The second violation, by three Antonov-12 aircraft, took place with the planes flying west towards the Bahr Al Ghazal region before turning back.

The magazine condemned the incidents as "flagrant intervention by the Ethiopians against the security and stability of Sudan and in favor of southern Sudan rebels" and said precautionary measures had been taken to prevent further territorial violations. It accused Addis Ababa of bad faith in view of current attempts to convene peace talks in Ehtiopia between the rebels and a delegation of senior Sudanese political figures and trade unionists. "While contacts are currently underway on all levels to improve relations between Sudan and its neighbors, Ethiopia has shown its bad intentions with its warplanes flagrantly violating Sudan's sovereignty," it said. The talks, originally scheduled to start Monday, have been postponed three times and were due to get underway Thursday.

Jordan To Supply Forces With 'Defensive' Weapons

JN201539 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 20 Mar (SUNA) — Jordan will supply Sudan with defensive weapons. This was announced today by General Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces. He said that the aid, which will be given in line with Jordan's capabilities, is earmarked for the Sudanese Armed Forces' defensive abilities.

Concluding his 3-day official visit to Sudan, Shakir said that his talks with Sudanese military officials dealt with the various spheres of bilateral military cooperation, particularly in the fields of training and coordination.

Shakir said that the Sudanese Armed Forces are characterized by excellence, discipline, and sincere patriotism. He expressed his absolute satisfaction over his visit to Sudan, which came at the invitation of General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, commander in chief and Transitonal Military Council chairman. Siwar al-Dhahab asked Shakir to convey an oral message to Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan in reply to the message that his highness sent to Gen Siwar al-Dhahab.

Siwar al-Dhahab Returns From Uganda Meetings

JN211110 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum March 21 (SUNA) — TMC Chairman Gen. Siwar al-Dhahab returned here yesterday concluding a 2-day visit to Uganda where he participated in a regional African summit.

Leaders from seven east and central African countries met together in Entebbe, Uganda, and discussed African issues, the situation in the region and particularly the security situation in Uganda. The one-day summit discussed ways of promoting cooperation among those countries.

The leaders agreed that the instability in one country in the region affects the security in others. They also condemned the racial regime of South Africa and called for immediate independence of Namibia.

The Ugandan leader Yoweri Museveni who opened the summit conference stressed the necessity of regional cooperation in order to achieve political and economic independence for the African countries.

He also welcomed Gen. Siwar al-Dhahab [who] had separate talks with the leaders of Uganda, Zaire, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and discussed with them bilateral relations and other African issues of mutual interest.

Army Commander on Retaking Rumbek From SPLA

JN201446 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Mar (SUNA) — The People's Armed Forces will certainly retake the city of Rumbek from the forces of John Garang, commander of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, at any moment. Lieutenant General Taj al-Din 'Abdallah Fadl, deputy commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, announced this today.

The Rumbek military unit conducted a tactical withdrawal from the city recently after a great number of people were killed as a result of the artillery shelling by Garang's forces, which entered the city after the people were evacuated.

The People's Armed Forces are concentrating their units and intensifying their attacks on Garang's forces in the city to retake it.

The deputy commander in chief affirmed that the soldiers and civilians who were wounded in the shelling of Garang's forces before the withdrawal of the People's Armed Forces were evacuated to the nearest military position, where they are receiving good care from the People's Armed Forces.

Cabinet Earmarks $200 Million To Purchase Oil

JN201213 Khartoum SUNA in English 1020 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Khartoum, Mar 20 (SUNA) — The Council of Ministers earmarked 200 million dollars for financing petroleum purchase. *AL-SAHAFAH* daily issued here Thursday, quoting Energy Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Uthman, explain that these purchases will be carried out through banking and trade operations, the Sudanese expatriates' remittances in addition to the obligatory contribution and trade exchange.

Saudi Arabia To Supply Oil for 4 Months

JN201219 Khartoum SUNA in English 1019 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 20 (SUNA) — Saudi Arabia has agreed to provide Sudan [with] oil requirements for extra four months. [Passage indistinct] The first consignment of the quantity, which will meet the country's needs during the period following the expiry of the transitional period, was delivered on March 13. The Saudi donation is considered an extension of Saudi oil contribution to Sudan since the popular uprising last April.

SPLA Radio: Western Youth Group Expresses Support

EA201036 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] Political-Military High Command has received an important written message of declaration from an organization named Western Sudan Youth Armed Movement Against Oppression and Exploitation. The membership of this movement is exclusively from Al-Masiriyah tribe in southern Kurdufan.

In its message, the organization, as signed by its political and military bureau, declared its joining the SPLA-SPLM as only clear organization capable of fighting exploitation and oppression in Sudan and work to build a new Sudan of justice and equality among the citizens without discrimination on the basis of religion, ethnic, or racial origins, neither on cultural differences.

The organization known as the Western Sudan Youth Armed Movement Against Oppression and Exploitation has also denounced the Transitional Military Council's plans aimed at arming the Mesiriya tribes and forcing them to fight against SPLA and the neighboring tribes with whom they are bound by blood relations.

As soon as this message was received, the commander in chief of SPLA and chairman of SPLM Provisional Executive Committee, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior, sent a message of congratulations to the members of Western Sudan Youth Armed Movement Against Oppression and Exploitation for their courageous revolutionary and patriotic stand.

In this connection, the spokesman for the SPLA-SPLM Political-Military High Command said that quick orders have been issued to Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Aweid Akuot, commander of SPLA forces in Bahr Al Ghazal, and to Major Paul Dor Lampuol, commander of SPLA forces in Bentiu, and to Major Dr Yak Majer Deng, commander of SPLA forces in southern Kurdufan, to make appropriate measures to receive members of the Western Sudan Youth Armed Movement Against Oppression and Exploitation Organization any time they arrived SPLA camps in areas bordering Kurdufan, Darfur, Bahr Al Ghazal and Upper Nile.

The spokesman added that specific orders have been issued to the SPLA field commanders in the above-mentioned areas to establish appropriate training centers for the citizens of Al-Masiriyah tribes who belong to the organization and that the SPLA-SPLM will provide military training and armament. The spokesman said that the list of names of the organization which was received recently by the SPLA High Command has been sent to Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Aweid Akuot, Major Paul Dor Lampuol and Major Dr Yak Majer Deng.

In conclusion, the spokesman owed his apologies to the organization for failure to pass this message in time because the letter reached the SPLA-SPLM office rather late. The spokesman for the SPLA-SPLM Political-Military High Command declined to reveal the names of the members of the Western Sudan Youth Armed Movement Against the Oppression and Exploitation for reasons connected with their safety and security. But he promised that their names would be disclosed anytime any of the members report to the SPLA centers. The list of the names contains 30 normal citizens, 10 previous volunteers to the Iran-Iraq war, and 5 retired government soldiers.

Lastly, the SPLA-SPLM High Command spokesman said that as soon as the members of that organization arrived at SPLA centers, the SPLA-SPLM Political-Military High Command will immediately convene a reconciliation conference between the Al-Masiriyah tribe and the neighboring tribes.

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Releases Participants in 1984 Bread Riots

LD202228 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba has had talks with Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and interior minister, in the presence of Mansour Skhiri [minister, director of the presidential office].

Mr Mzali said that the Great Combatant, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of Independence day, graciously ordered the conditional release of 176 persons sentenced following the January 1984 events [reference to riots following increase in bread prices].

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Receives UN Relief Official

EA210012 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Today the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee secretary general, Provisional Military Administrative Council chairman and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, met and held discussions with the UN under secretary for African Emergency Operations, Mr Maurice Strong. During the meeting, held at the National Palace this afternoon, the comrade secretary general briefed Mr Maurice Strong on activities carried out with the help of international donors for the containment of the drought problems in our country and told him about measures intended to solve the problem permanently. Referring to these measures and the resettlement program, which will eliminate such problems in the future, the comrade revolutionary leader said that the resettlement program is being gradually expanded and intensified. He said it was transforming the life of many of our compatriots and noted that the program was intended to rehabilitate our nomad society and to enable nomads to become productive citizens.

As a result of the program, the comrade revolutionary leader said, farmers will be in a position to learn modern and reliable methods of farming and land use and to select crops. He noted that afforestation is being carried out extensively and in a coordinated manner in order to curb the wanton destruction of forests, which is greatly contributing to the drought problem.

Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam expressed gratitude to the United Nations for its cooperation in efforts to contain the drought problem in our country.

For his part, Mr Maurice Strong said that during his visit this week he had been impressed with the work being done to give appropriate assistance to drought-hit compatriots and to implement the resettlement program, which aims at permanently solving the drought problem. Mr Strong assured the comrade secretary general that the United Nations would continue assisting efforts to combat the drought problem in Ethiopia.

Present during the meeting were Comrade Taye Gurumu, deputy commissioner of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, and Mr Michael Priestly, representative of the UN Emergency Operations Bureau in Ethiopia.

Minister of Labor Receives Official

EA210030 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The UN under secretary for African Emergency Operations, Maurice Strong, has said that he is impressed with the work done over a short space of time to resettle our drought-stricken compatriots in fertile areas, in line with plans to ease their uncomfortable existence and to help them lead a new economic and social life. Maurice Strong said this when he met Comrade Berhanu Bayeh, member of the Politburo of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee and minister of labor and social affairs, at the latter's office today.

Mr Strong pointed out that in view of the severity of the problem, the work done over the last years was impressive and encouraging. He gave an assurance that in addition to the assistance it has already given, the United Nations would do its best to continue its aid to the program. The United Nations under secretary for African Emergency Operations added that the clear policy being pursued by revolutionary Ethiopia for implementation of the resettlement program is very useful and an assurance that the program is a correct one.

Prior to this, Comrade Berhanu said that even though the resettlement program is based on genuine objectives, some governments, particularly the U.S. Administration, are carrying out a propaganda campaign aimed at distorting the world community's view of the situation.

KENYA

President Discusses Seven-Nation Summit Upon Return

EA202044 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi arrived back in Nairobi at 7:30 this evening after attending the seven-nation East and Central African summit meeting at Entebbe, Uganda.

After the talks, the heads of state issued a joint communique in which they expressed their appreciation to President Yoweri Museveni for his untiring efforts to restore peace in Uganda and ensure the observance of human rights and respect for rule of law.

The visiting leaders pledged assistance to Uganda and appealed to all states and international organizations to provide assistance to the Government of Uganda in its rehabilitation of the economy which has been ravaged by many years of civil strife.

Noting that insecurity in any of the states in the region affected stability in the other states, the heads of state agreed to actively promote cooperation on security matters in the region.

They recommitted themselves to the principles of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of their states and noninterference by whatever means in each other's internal affairs. In this regard, they pledged to work actively for the promotion of bilateral and regional trust. The leaders also expressed a strong desire to see the furtherance of meaningful political, economic, commercial, social and cultural relations in the region, based on mutual benefits and sovereign equality, to raise the living standard of their people. It was agreed to focus attention to the promotion of trade, transport, telecommunications, crime detection and disease control. To achieve those objectives, the heads of state emphasized the vital importance of reactivating the existing joint commissions between the states of the region.

They condemned the policy of apartheid by South Africa's racist and minority regime, her illegal occupation of Namibia and its acts of destabilisation against the frontline states. The heads of state said that the UN Resolution number 435 constituted the only acceptable bsis for the independence of Namibia. They called for a rapid implementation of the resoltuion.

The visiting leaders expressed their deep appreciation to President Museveni, the Government and the people of Uganda for the warm reception and generous hospitality accorded to them and their delegations.

During the talks, which were held in a brotherly and cordial atmosphere, it was agreed that the next summit meeting be held in Nairobi in July this year.

UGANDA

Nairobi Daily Reports Gunfire in Kampala 18 March

EA191135 Nairobi THE STANDARD in English
19 Mar 86 p 24

[By Henry Gombya: "Now Gunfire Rocks Kampala"]

[Text] Kampala, Tuesday: Kampala City was yesterday night rocked by gunfire, amid fears that criminal activities were on the increase. The shooting started about 3 a.m. in the morning and went on for almost an hour. Most of the firing, which seemed to come from the Russian AK-47 assault rifles, was concentrated near the Uganda International Conference Centre in central Kampala.

Residents near the area said this morning that they had been awakened by sounds of heavy shooting in the early hours of Tuesday. It seemed security men were exchanging fire with an armed group passing near the conference centre, they said. President Museveni yesterday said army and police patrols would be increased in Kampala in a bid to stop criminal activities.

The National Resistance Army [NRA] which seized Kampala in January has mounted roadblocks in certain areas of the city. Criminal activities have gone up recently in Kampala, although they were almost non-existent a month after the fall of Kampala to Museveni's forces. The robberies have claimed the lives of three prominent Ugandans, including a university registrar, an advocate and an Anglican priest. Kampala residents are now beginning to worry about driving around the capital at night. As soon as the NRA came to power most Kampala motorists drove freely throughout the night.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education has announced that the primary leaving examinations, suspended last year due to the war between the NRA and the Uganda National liberation Army [UNLA] in the disturbed areas, are to be held from tomorrow. The examinations which should have been held last November will now be held in the west, south and south-west Uganda.

The Uganda Certificate of Education [ordinary] levels) examinations, also suspended in the same areas, will now be held at the end of this month. A senior official of the ministry said today that he hoped the current war in northern Uganda would be over before April 4th to enable schools in the north which did not sit the A [advanced] levels to do so.

GHANA

Captain of Ship Carrying Arms Confesses to Plot

AB201413 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The captain of the Argentine ship which was recently arrested in Brazil carrying arms and ammunition bound for Ghana, has confessed that the crew of the ship were recruited by a Ghanaian dissident abroad. He was speaking at a news conference in Brazil. The captain said he and the crew were recruited in the United States. The crew, who are war veterans, some from the Vietnam war, confirmed the captain's story, and said they are on the payroll of Ghanaian dissidents in America.

In the meantime, the Brazilian police, who have detained the group on suspicion of arms smuggling, say they are waiting for further confirmation from the Argentine authorities before taking further action on the matter.

It will be recalled that the government on Tuesday described the incident as part of a plot to destabilize the country. A government statement on that day said the ship was illegally flying a Ghanaian flag, but had Panamanian registration. Its 18-man crew, 8 Amercians and 10 Argentines, were suspected to be mercenaries and veterans from the Vietnam war. The arms and ammunition had been bought by a group of Ghanaian dissidents led by a Geoffry Osei, working in close collaboration with some foreign intelligence agencies and powers. The statement said the ship was arrested following representation made to the Brazilian authorities by the Ghanaian ambassador there, who was actng upon instructions from Accra.

GBC [Ghana Broadcasting Corporation] correspondents note that the way the Western media, especially the BBC and Voice of America broke the story on Tuesday is further proof that there is close collaboration between Western intelligence agencies and these media. These intelligence organs are in the habit of (?tipping) the foreign multinational media houses with the wrong information so as to deceive the world before the truth can come out. Our correspondents add that they did this in the Soussoudis case last July, partly for the purpose of warning CIA spies and collaborators to run away.

Crew Told Arms for Government

AB201619 Paris AFP in French 1531 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Accra, 20 Mar (AFP) — The arms and ammunition discovered on board the *Nabicotor*, a ship carrying mercenaries which docked last Friday in the north of Rio de Janeiro, had been bought by a group of Ghanaian dissidents who want to overthrow by force Ghanaian head of state Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, it was learned from an official source in Accra.

Eduardo Gilardoni, the captain, and John Dee Early, one of the Americans on board the *Nabicotor* who claimed to be a pilot and freelance journalist, said in Rio Wednesday during a press conference that they had been deceived by the man who financed this cargo. The latter, whom they identified as Godfrey Osei but who presented himself as a "representative" of the Ghanaian Defense Ministry, had affirmed to them that the arms were meant for the Ghanaian Government forces, it was specified.

The crew of the ship learned that the arms were in fact meant for Ghanaian dissidents when the *Nabicotor* was already at sea, it was added.

Coup Plot Tribunal Acquits, Discharges Defendant

AB202058 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] In Accra, the national public tribunal today acquitted and discharged Kwame Agyeman-Budu, the sixth accused person who was charged together with Mawuli Kofi Dra Goka and others for preparing to overthrow the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC]. The tribunal said, after considering all the evidence given by the prosecution, it has come to the conclusion that there was no prima facie case against them [as heard] with regard to the plot to overthrow the government.

LIBERIA

Supreme Court Writ Cancels Opposition Rally

AB201810 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] A mass political rally of the grand coalition of three opposition parties scheduled for tomorrow has been called off. According to a writ of prohibition from the Supreme Court to the Ministry of Justice issued today, Mr Gabriel Kpoleh of the Liberian Unification Party, Dr Edward B. Kesselly of the Unity Party, and Mr Jackson F. Doe of the Liberian Action Party are requested to appear before his honor (Elwood L. Djangaba) associate presiding in chambers at the Supreme Court at the Temple of Justice, on 31 March at 1100 in the morning to show cause why petition [word indistinct] for should not be granted. According to the petition the mass political meeting by the opposition parties will not be in the best interest to the security of the state and will have an adverse effect on the prevailing state of affairs which include public peace, respect to (?the coalition) of the Unity Party, the Liberian Unification Party, and the Liberian Action Party. Meanwhile, at the broadcast time there was no word from the leaders of the coalition.

Private Schools Closed Until Safety Guaranteed

AB201856 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Principals of private schools in the Monrovia area say they will not reopen school until the Government of Liberia guarantees that it will shoulder the responsibility for any damages on the school properties.

The principals said they are willing to resume classes but pointed out that they cannot afford to sustain any more damages on the campuses.

Testifying before the Special Senate Committee of Inquiry yesterday, the school officials said they have heard rumors that MCSS [Monrovia Consolidated School System] students had threatened to burn down the schools it they resume classes before the Consolidated School System. The private schools' principals expressed fear that their schools might be burned down if they were to resume classes.

Meanwhile, the Special Senate Committee of Inquiry has advised the principals requesting guaranty to discuss the issue with the security forces and the Education Ministry.

NIGERIA

Foreign Minister Departs For Cameroon, Chad

AB201533 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The minister of external affairs, Professor Bolaji Akinyemi, left Lagos today for Cameroon and Chad as part of Nigeria's efforts for peace in Chad. He is expected to hold consultations with his counterparts in the two countries. The minister will also deliver special message to President Paul Biya of Cameroon and President Hissein Habre of Chad. He returns to Lagos on Saturday [22 March].

ANGOLA

Russian Pilots Prepare To Attack Savimbi Bases

MB210640 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
20 Mar 86 p. 3

[The *STAR*'s Africa News Service]

[Text] A group of Soviet MIG-23 pilots have moved into southern Angola as the Angolan defence force (FAPLA) prepares for its anticipated offensive against Dr Jonas Savimbi's UNITA strongholds.

Diplomatic and intelligence sources in southern Africa are carefully monitoring the preparations being made by both sides for a battle observers believe will take place once the Angolan rainy season is over in about six weeks.

It is not known how many Russian pilots are in the area or what their exact role is now — or what it will be once the expected battle begins.

However, hundreds of millions of rands worth of military equipment has been flown into the airports at Menongue and Cuito Cuanavale in southern Angola over the past few months.

This has included advanced radar and missile installations and it is clear that Cuito Cuanavale is being developed into an advanced aid base for the offensive against UNITA.

There is speculation that the Russians are being used to help get the base operating and to train Angolan and Cuban pilots.

Angola is known to have at least 20 of the advanced MIG-23 aircraft.

UNITA Spokesman Says No U.S. Arms Delivered

MB201237 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Only weeks before the new offensive which is expected to be launched against UNITA in Angola, none of the promised weapons from the United States has been delivered. UNITA's chief of intelligence, Brigadier (Chindondo), who is in South Africa at the moment, talked to Cliff Saunders about the nature of the new offensive.

[Begin recording][Chindondo] It is clear now that the Soviets and the Cubans this year are taking the offensive more seriously than last year, and we have facts. For instance, there are new advisers now involved with this offensive to come. We think it will start in April.

[Saunders] Is it essential for you to have American weapons in order to push back the FAPLA forces? Is that essential?

[Chindondo] It is essential.

FAPLA Forces Kill 70 'Bandits' in 6th Region

MB181529 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] In the 6th political and military region, the FAPLA forces are continuing their combat against the UNITA bandits.

[Begin unidentified reporter recording] The mopping up operations against the UNITA puppet groups, in the pay of international imperialism, in the 6th military region are continuing. During the first 3 months of this year, the national defense and state security forces in the 6th political and military region of the Cuando Cubango Province have inflicted heavy blows on the enemy. Our armed forces have killed 70 UNITA bandits and captured 14 others. During these operations, our soldiers captured 42 light and heavy weapons, and also 81-mm mortars and assorted ammunition and explosives. Moreover 70 civilians were freed from the yoke of the armed bandits. These defeats once again show the high combat and organizational capabilities of our people's army in safeguarding the revolutionary gains which have been achieved notwithstanding the (?war that is imposed on us). [end recording]

NAMIBIA

Security Force Member Killed in Fights With SWAPO

MB201614 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1618 GMT
20 Mar 86

[Text] Windhoek, March 20, SAPA — A member of the SWA-/Namibian security forces was killed and another seriously injured in separate skirmishes with SWAPO insurgents in the north of the territory, the SWA Territory Force said in a statement in Windhoek this evening.

A member of a police counter-insurgency unit, Special Constable Ernestus Hishidivale, 21, died in an armed clash with insurgents on Saturday, the statement said. In the same skirmish, four SWAPO insurgents were killed.

An officer attached to the SWATF Headquarters in Windhoek, Commandant Charles Hochapfel, 44, was injured in an armed encounter with SWAPO insurgents in northern SWA/Namibia yesterday, the statement added.

Cmdt Hochapfel, who was conducting an "operational effectiveness evaluation, "had been transferred to 1 Military Hospital in Pretoria where his condition was described today as "critical." The statement did not give further details of the incidents.

The SWATF said eight SWAPO insurgents had died in northern SWA/Namibia in the last five days, bringing to 179 the number of insurgents "neutralised" since the beginning of the year.

In one incident, two SWAPO insurgents were killed when they blew themselves up with a landmine that they were priming on a road in northern SWA/Namibia, the SWATF statement said. In another incident, a civilian, Mr Linekela Jonas, was killed by SWAPO insurgents in northern SWA/Namibia.

The SWATF said SWAPO documents found on insurgents indicated the organisation's military wing (PLAN) [People's Liberation Army of Namibia] was experiencing a shortage of manpower and it was concentrating on "soft targets."

Documents seized from PLAN's "navy forces detachment" (NF) contained instructions for the NF to carry out stand-off bombardments on three security forces bases, to attack the villages of six headmen in the western Ovambo region, and to carry out various acts of sabotage, including the destruction of 300 telephone poles and the planting of between 30 and 40 landmines on roads, the SWATF statement said.

Another directive was that the NF should abduct between 200 and 250 residents from western Ovambo to Angola for military training.

"If this instruction has been issued to each of PLAN's 12 detachments, it means that SWAPO is going to try to abduct between 2400 and 3000 people from SWA in 1986," the SWATF said.

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha Returns After Talks in Frankfurt

MB201241 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, returned to Cape Town today after his lightning visit to Europe. Douglas McClure reports.

[McClure] Among others, Mr Botha met the deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs in the State Department, Mr Frank Wisner. At his departure from Frankfurt yesterday evening, the minister said to newsmen that the talks were a continuation of the recent series of negotiations between the United States and South Africa concerning a solution to the South-West African question and the withdrawal of the Cuban forces from Angola. Botha and his cabinet colleague, the minister of energy and mineral affairs, Mr Danie Steyn, also discussed matters relating to ESCOM [Electricity Supply Commission] with the Americans. Mr Steyn will be returning later this week to South Africa.

Sharpeville, Uitenhage Shootings Remembered

Demonstrations in Durban

MB210828 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0814 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, Mar 21, SAPA — Placard demonstrations were held in and around Durban today to mark the anniversaries of the Uitenhage and Sharpeville shootings.

The demonstration was organised by members of the End Conscription Campaign (EEC) and its associate organisations, including the Black Sash.

The posters said: "Sharpeville, Uitenhage — killing is no solution."

"The demonstrations were a peaceful effort to remind Durban residents of past atrocities and the possibility of history repeating itself here while troops are deployed in townships around Durban," said an EEC statement.

"The use of violence to deal with opposition will only lead to an intensification of the current state of civil war."

Police, Students Clash in Durban

MB211214 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT 21 Mr 86

[Text] Police and students have clashed in Durban's city center on the anniversary of the Sharpeville and Langa shootings. Carmel Rickard reports.

[Rickard] Pupils from a number of high schools and from the local universities came to town for a protest to coincide with Sharpeville and Langa commemorations. Some of them told me afterwards they had planned to protest outside the American Consulate. Others said they wanted to attend a Department of Education and Training workshop on crisis control and put across their points of view. Bystanders told me that the march had been well ordered and peaceful when the police, armed with shotguns and sjamboks (whips] and some of them with dogs, moved in. I saw police dragging students, in one case by his hair, into vans. School books and shoes littered West Street between Fied and Grey Streets. Police blocked off the road as they chased students in and out of shops. Several dozens were put into vans and driven off, at least one reporter among them. Police are still moving around the streets as students regroup.

Further on Clashes

MB211231 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1224 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, March 21, SAPA — Police sjamboked students and used tear smoke in West Street today to disperse hundreds of children and students gathered in a demonstration to mark the anniversary of the Langa and Sharpeville shootings.

Violence flared after 300 schoolchilren were bussed in from the townships. The children disembarked from the buses in Pine Street and ran through school lane to West Street, singing and chanting and waving banners. By the time they got to West Street police had cordoned it off from the Field Street corner and at a pedestrian crossing opposite game discount world.

The schoolchildren, on their way to a protest meeting at the exumenical centre in Prince Alfred Street, broke up and scattered into shops. Riot police then forcibly hauled the children out of the shops and threw them into the back of police trucks.

In the chaos, police squirted tear smoke cannisters into the crowds. Scores of shoppers were caught in the cross fire and a number of them dropped parcels as they fled from the smoke. Schoolbooks, satchels and shoes were scattered on the street.

When most of the Lamontville students had been arrested and packed into police vehicles at least two dozen young Indian men, waving their arms in the air in hands-up gestures, handed themselves in to the police in support of the students.

They were thrown quickly into the back of a police vehicle, and started chanting "free Mandela". Some were whipped as they climbed into the truck, and the watching crowd, who had been clapping and cheering, shouted in protest.

One black protester, locked up, screamed at the police: "Look me in the face, I love you. Why do you do this to me? I have done nothing. I do not hate you for what you have done. You can hit me, kick me, break my bones, but I will not retaliate." He was sprayed with tear smoke.

Police were then hard-pressed to keep the thousands of packed onlookers from blocking the street and pavements. The trucks drove off about an hour after the trouble had started.

Police Patrol Johannesburg Streets

MB211148 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1140 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 21, SAPA — Police are patrolling the streets of Johannesburg in force today — the anniversary of the Sharpeville and Langa shootings.

A police spokesman has described the patrols as crime prevention measures.

"This is a saturation patrol, which means the deployment of a large number of policemen in a specific area with the purpose of crime prevention," Lieutenant Pierre Louw, the public relations officer for the police on the Witwatersrand said. He would not disclose how many policemen were involved but said: "We want the public to be aware of the fact that the police are there to protect them against people who do not show respect for the law."

The patrols concentrated on the city centre and the Khotso house area near Joubert Park, where the offices of anti-apartheid activists are housed.

Today is the anniversary of a double tragedy — the Sharpeville massacre in 1960 when 69 people lost their lives after police fired at anti-pass demonstrators, and the shootings at Langa near Uitenhage last year when 20 died.

It will be observed in various ways in townships across South Africa — by work stoppages and stayaways, the boycott of classes, commemoration services and pickets.

It is reported that today in Tembisa, north of Kempton Park, there was a complete school stayaway and few people went to work. No buses were entering the township.

200 March Through Johannesburg

MB211304 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1301 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Johannesburg, Mar 21, SAPA — More than 200 people marched through central Johannesburg this afternoon chanting slogans and singing freedom songs after attending a meeting to commemmorate the Langa and Sharpeville shootings.

Speakers at the meeting — organised by the Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO) — vowed "to take the struggle for liberation into white areas". The meeting took place in a hall in Khotso House, headquarters of the South African Council of Churches and the United Democratic Front.

Police chased people through the streets and arrested at least three, and an officer in charge of the heavy contingent of police ordered the crowd to disperse.

A diminished crowd then gathered outside Lekton House in Wanderers Street and continued singing freedom songs in the street.

Thousands Congregate in Uitenhage

MB211111 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1052 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, March 21, SAPA — Thousands of people congregating in Uitenhage for memorial services — and others staying at home in sympathy — left the streets of Port Elizabeth virtually deserted and shops standing empty today.

The call for a work stayaway on the first anniversary of the Langa shootings and the 26th anniversary of Sharpeville was observed almost in total.

The street scenes in the city were in stark contrast to those at Uitenhage where chanting crowds jostled their way to the KwaNobuhle Stadium for the main gathering of the day.

Overhead a helicopter whirled while along the street's security forces mounted patrols and black marshals identified by coloured insignia kept a check on the swelling crowd.

In both centres, only essential services like hospitals were being staffed by blacks. In all other spheres, whites were doing the manual jobs. For most shopkeepers this was light work. In the northern areas of Port Elizabeth they outnumbered customers and some shops had closed their doors. In central garages owners were filling up themselves.

"There are no blacks at work today," one garage owner in town, Mr Fred Barendse, said.

There were no refuse removals today, a spokesman at the municipality said. Services will be resumed on Monday.

Over at Uitenhage, thousands of peopel chanting "Viva! viva!" converged on KwaNobuhle stadium to commemorate the 21 people who were killed at Langa last year by security forces.

People brandishing fists in the air arrived in busloads by the dozen at about 9am and streamed singing and chanting in the grounds of the stadium, where a public address system was being installed for speeches expected to be delivered by Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of the imprisoned leader of the ANC, Mr Nelson Mandela, and Dr Allan Boesak, patron of the United Demcoratic Front.

The security forces had few vehicles near the stadium, but many were seen on the roads leading to Uitenhage. On the Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage road a roadblock held up four buses and five smaller vehicles, all crammed to bursting point with people heading for the stadium. At one stage a helicopter hovered high above the stadium.

An eastern Cape newspaper reported earlier that police fired teargas at a crowd in Maduna Road today, near the scene of the Langa shootings last year. People ran for water to wash off the effect of the fumes.

In the grounds of the stadium large groups of people trotted in wide circles. One group was led by a man carrying a model of a file made of wood. A number of t-shirts had slogans printed on them such as "submit or fight" and "Uitenhage massacre".

Among the dignatories at the KwaNobuhle Stadium were Mr Andrew Savage, the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] MP for Walmer, and Mrs Judy Chalmers, the east Cape chairperson of the Black Sash. Placards and postcards of Mr Nelson Mandela were displayed and the crowd cheered and ululated as they saw the pictures.

Last night there were emotional scenes in the KwaNobuhle cemetery as about 100 people arrived to set up a marble stone on a monument to those who died in the Langa shootings a year ago today. While work on the monument was being completed others sang freedom songs honouring Mr Nelson Mandela and Mr Oliver Tambo, the present head of the ANC, and danced to the "toyi-toyi" protest song. The face of the marble stone was engraved with a map of Africa with a warrior carrying a shield in his left hand and holding an assegai in his raised right hand.

Above the map is enscribed: "Uitenhage massacre, 21st March 1985", followed by the names of 29 people who died. Mrs Mandela is expected to unveil the monument today.

After 10pm members of the police and South African Defence Force gathered in armoured vehicles outside the offices of the KwaNobuhle Town Council.

Crowds of about 200 also danced and sang in Njoli Road, KwaZakele last night. Police in patrol vans and casspirs dispersed them with tearsmoke.

Pupils Boycott Soshanvuge School

MB210833 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0907 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 21, SAPA — There was a heavy army presence in Soshanguve today as hundreds of pupils stayed away from school to commemorate the Sharpeville and Uitenhage shootings, while in Mamelodi the situation seemed normal.

The army and the local police force manned roadblocks at the entrance of the township and near the South Africa-Bophuthatswana border. Early today army personnel were patrolling the streets on foot while some were driving around in buffel carriers.

Commemoration services will be held in the township to mark the 26th anniversary of the Sharpeville shootings in which 69 anti-pass protesters were killed and more than 200 injured, and to remember the 21 people who died in Uitenhage last year when police opened fire on them.

A source close to the pupils in Soshanguve said no pupils were expected to report for classes today. Other services will be held on Sunday at various churches.

In Mamelodi workers fresh from a three-day stayaway in protest of police shootings in the area boarded their transport, which ran normally, to work. The police and army patrols in the area had thinned out early today.

Hundreds of Medunsa [Medical University of South Africa] students will hold a commemoration service on the university campus today.

UDF, COSATU Issue Statement

MB211213 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1111 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, March 21, SAPA — A monument dedicated to the victims of the Langa shootings cost the black community of Uitenhage R6000. The monument, which covers the graves of the victims, will be unveiled after the all-day service in the KwaNobuhle stadium today.

The inscription on the momument read: "In memory of our martyrs whose blood will nourish the tree that will bear the fruits of the people's total liberation and others whose whereabouts could not be established after that brutal and merciless killing."

This is followed by another one, reading: "We also remember all our heroes who have fallen during the course of the struggle, their sacrifice will not be in vain. Victory is certain — dedicated by the freedom-loving people of Uitenhage."

Twenty buses were arranged to transport people from Langa townships to KwaNobuhle and others would take people from Despatch. Mr Fikile Kobese, a spokesman for the organisers of today's service, said there was a spirit of unity and closeness among the community in Uitenhage over the "black weekend."

Meanwhile, the Port Elizabeth offices of the United Democratic Front and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) in a joint statement said March 21 marked a very important moment "in our history of the struggle and is a testimony to our commitment to end social injustice."

It said the people had now decided to pay tribute to martyrs of the past by demanding a national paid-holiday for all on this historic day — March 21.

"Not only do we share in common memory of our past heroes but we put on record our demands", which are:

— That March 21, May 1 and June 16 be made national paid-holidays,
— The unbanning of all meetings of progressive organisations,
— Release Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners,
— Halt all price increases and scrap sales tax,
— The unbanning of the African National Congress and the free and unconditional return of exiles.

UDF and COSATU said the decision by workers to stay away from work today was to drive home their demands.

Buthelezi To Launch New Trade Union 1 May

MB181700 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1629 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 18, SAPA — Another potential giant in the labour movement will be launched officially by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi at a mass rally in Durban on May 1. The United Workers Union of South Africa (UWUSA) will be born at the Kings Park rugby stadium.

Mr Simon Conco, chairman of Chief Buthelezi's Inkatha committee on economic affairs, today spelt out UWUSA's aims.

The new union — to oppose the giant Congress of SA Trade Unions (COSATU) — was committed to fighting disinvestment and socialism, Mr Conco said. It would be open to all workers, regardless of political affiliation. UWUSA was committed to liberating the free-enterprise system from apartheid control, to the advantage of the working class.

Heunis on Removals From Louis Trichardt Township

MB181650 Johannebsurg SAPA in English 1548 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] House of Assembly, March 18, SAPA — Only 47 families remained to be moved from the black township of Louis Trichardt, the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, said today in reply to a question from Mr Peter Soal (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] Johannesburg North).

A total of 6,147 people had already been moved, and the development board northern Transvaal [as received] was negotiating with the remaining families totalling 234 people.

Although no definite date could be given for their removal, the negotiations indicated they were "all prepared to re-locate".

Eventually, everyone except single workers would have been moved either to SA Development Trust [SADT] farms at Waterval (for Shangaasns) and Vleyfontien (for Vendas) or to the SADT town Seshego near Johannesburg.

The removal, which would improve the "poor" living conditions of families, was the result of negotiations that had taken place over the past 20 years or so between the town council of Louis Trichardt and later the development board.

Single workers who were employed in Louis Trichardt and wished to remain would be permitted to stay, in hostel accommodation. A passenger bus service between the two farms and Louis Trichardt was already in operation at a monthly cost of R11 a passenger for those who had been moved but kept their jobs in the town. Mr Heunis said this service was subsidised, with the transport company recovering almost 50 per cent of the transport cost from the state.

Family heads who preferred to re-locate with their families to Seshego would have job opportunities arranged in Pietersburg.

Justice Minister on Diepkloof Hunger Strike

MB181646 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1601 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] House of Assembly, March 18, SAPA — Thirty-five people detained under the emergency regulations had held a hunger strike at the Diepkloof Prison, Johannesburg, from February 11 to 21 this year, the minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, confirmed today in reply to a question from Mr Peter Soal (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] Johannesburg North).

Mr Coetsee said the group had informed the prison authorities they were on a hunger strike, in a representation in which they called for the immediate and unconditional release of all detainees, a lifting of the state of emergency and the withdrawal of the Defence Force from the townships.

"Of the initial group of 35, some were released in the normal course of events and on February 20 there were still 27 left.

"On that day they indicated they were going to end their hunger strike and on February 21, they began to take the food provided for them," the minister said.

The detainees were on record that the hunger strike was not aimed at their treatment in prison, although a memorandum containing certain complaints had also been submitted to Mr Coetsee.

The Detainees Parents Support Committee had issued a statement containing alleged reasons related to the hunger strike, but these had not "totally corresponded" with the reasons supplied by the detainees.

"The real motive for the hunger strike is therefore subject to speculation but it was probably related to an orchestrated propaganda campaign," he said.

The detainees' demand to be released could not be acceded to as they were "lawfully detained", but they had been treated in accordance with the Tokyo declaration, being served all meals. "Furthermore, they also kept edibles which were bought from the prison tuck shop in their possession and when this fact was made known by the media they handed over a certain quantity of edibles, except sugar, to the prison authorities for safekeeping," K. Coetsee said.

He said this particular case had been handled "in accordance with the internationally accepted practices, as contained in the Tokyo declaration, as is the case in other announced hunger strikes."

"For example, all meals are served without exception. The opportunity to acquire foodstuffs continued and foodstuffs which were at their disposal were not removed.

"Medical treatment was provided throughout and participants in the hunger strike were regularly warned of the adverse effects actions such as this may have on their health."

Police Offer Protection for Blacks Breaking Stayaway

MB201556 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The divisional commissioner of police in the Eastern Province, Brigadier Ernest Netler, says blacks who wish to go to work tomorrow during the planned stayaway can depend on the protection of the security forces. In a statement released in Port Elizabeth, Brigadier Netler said the police were aware that there were thousands of blacks who wanted to go to work tomorrow, but who feared intimidation by other blacks. He said the security forces had been increased in order to offer protection to these people.

The brigadier said people who continually organize boycotts and stayaways were succeeding only in driving industry from the eastern Cape and increasing the unemployment problem.

Police Move Into Guguletu, New Crossroads

MB202010 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2009 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 20, SAPA — A large contingent of police and troops moved into Guguletu, Nyanga and New Crossroads today after thousands of high school students took to the streets following a mass rally in the morning.

Although a few rounds of teargas were fired, police generally kept their distance from the marching, chanting students.

Students began gathering early this morning and at 10am about 3000 students from Sizamile, Fezeka, I.D. Mkize, Langa and X3 High Schools gathered at the X3 High School, New Crossroads for an end-of-term mass rally.

Hours before the rally, two classrooms were slightly damaged at Sizamile High when they were petrol bombed and a storeroom containing hundreds of new books and paper handed out by the Department of Education and Training was gutted. A pile of the new, free books lay on the grass outside the school. The incident followed book-burning at least one other township high school.

Differing reasons were given for the burning of the books, but the consensus among students spoken to was that they "promoted reactionary education" and that they "are poor quality and only cover half the year."

At the rally, student speakers urged support for the African National Congress and the South African Communist Party while army buffels and police vans patrolled the area. Around noon, the rally broke up and panicking students trampled a fence as two army buffels drove past, but took no action.

Thousands of students took to the streets, marching and chanting slogans. They marched into NY78 and then down NY3. A police van pulled up and an officer announced: "Please break up this gathering, please go home, stop throwing stones, just go on holiday."

Police refrained from opening fire on the large crowds which at times surged close to them, and instead used their vehicles to break the initial crowd into smaller groups, and then stationed casspirs and vans at strategic intervals.

By 3pm, groups of up to 300 chanting and singing students were running through virtually all the sections of the three townships, but the large crowds of the morning had broken up.

Two television crews, one from Worldwide Television News and one from CBS, were ordered out of the area by Major Dolf Odendaal, second-in-command of the reaction unit.

Even when stones were hurled at police vehicles police units withdrew and did not retaliate. Teargas was fired in NY3 near the Eyona shopping centre, where hundreds of students danced a "toi-toi" — a militant dance praising the military wing of the ANC, Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation].

A police liaison officer for the western Cape, Lieutenant Attie Laubscher, said today that only teargas and no birdshot had been used in the township. "We are there to maintain law and order and we use minimum force in all situations, as was the case today."

Seven More Murdered in Guguletu-Crossroads Violence

MB210723 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0653 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 21, SAPA — Seven people have been murdered in Guguletu and New Crossroads, bringing the death toll in the area to nine in 36 hours. Police are today trying to establish if there are political motives for the latest deaths.

They are also investigating whether there is a possibility they were killed by the group responsible for Wednesday nights deaths or whether they died in revenge killings.

The seven bodies were found early today after a night in which "comrades" and "fathers" apparently set out to settle differences following the deaths of Mr James Mehlala, 56, and Mr Venfolo Sitwaye, 38, who were stoned, hacked and burnt near their New

Crossroads homes. It has been claimed that Mr Mehlala was killed by "comrades".

Mr Sitwaye and Mr Mehlala were chairman and deputy chairman of the New Crossroads committee.

Police said they had no knowledge of alleged running battles between the two groups but confirmed that just before midnight, a house in Damara Street, New Crossroads, was set alight and a mobile shop nearby was looted. The bodies were found by police patrols between 4am and 4.30am today. The men were aged between 35 and 45. All had been killed with "sharp objects" which police believe may have been pangas.

The bodies had not been defiled as in the cases of Mr Mehlala and Mr Sitwaye. They were lying in the streets and on pavements and it would appear that they were attacked by a roaming crowd.

Unrest broke out in various parts of the Guguletu and Crossroads complex yesterday afternoon. Police said that about 2.15pm, a police vehicle was attacked and a petrol bomb thrown at it while police were on patrol in Guguletu.

Between 2pm and 3am today, there were six reported instances of stone throwing in Guguletu, and areas of Crossroads and New Crossroads. When a casspir was attacked about 9.15pm, tear-smoke was used by police to disperse a crowd of about 200. There were apparently no injuries.

Police Find 56 Bombs in Soweto; Two Killed

MB200525 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2213 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 20, SAPA — At least 56 petrol-bombs — allegedly to be used in an attack on the homes of policemen living in Soweto — were found by police in a series of raids in the sprawling township yesterday, a news report said. Two people were shot dead during police investigations.

The Afrikaans Johannesburg morning newspaper *BEELD* said in its early Friday editions the attacks were to have taken place on the homes of policemen living in Meadowlands, Soweto, on Wednesday night.

The paper said that during police investigations in Diepkloof, Soweto, they were confronted by a crowd of 200 youths which police tried to disperse by shouting instructions over loud hailers. Shots were fired from the mob at police and police returned fire. One man in the mob was shot dead. A 9mm shell was found at the scene, *BEELD*, quoting police, said.

During police investigations in Orland East, Soweto, petrol bombs and empty bottles were found, police were quoted as saying.

In another incident police investigating the bombs shot dead a youth who allegedly hurled a petrol bomb at them. A man was also slightly wounded in another incident when police investigated an illegal gathering and were stoned.

Police Fire Teargas at Lamontville School

MB210841 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0821 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, March 21, SAPA — Police fired tear-gas outside the Lamontville High School yesterday to disperse a crowd of pupils who had allegedly stoned passing cars and trucks.

More than 1,000 pupils from several schools in Lamontville gathered at the school to plan a demonstration — over the dismissal of eight teachers — outside the offices of the Department of Education and Training [DET] in Masonic Grove.

A spokesman for the Student's Representative Council at Lamontville High said they were getting ready to board three buses to take them to town when the police arrived and instructed the bus drivers to move.

"It was obvious that the police did not want us to go into town. So we decided to walk to town, but they stopped us and used teargas, rubber bullets and dogs to chase us away.

"Pupils fled in panic in all directions, some running across the nearby highway to escape from the police. At least three pupils were injured by the rubber bullets," he said.

There was a strong police presence in the townships yesterday and SAP and Defence Force teams searched vehicles entering and leaving the township.

Colonel Wynand van der Merwe, commanding officer of the SAP riot unit, said that the pupils had stoned delivery and private vehicles. They were warned by the police to disperse and when they disregarded the instruction, tear-gas was fired. Two people were arrested.

Mr Pieter Nicholson, regional director of the DET denied that the teachers had been sacked.

The SAP reported last night that "large and aggressive" gangs of youths in Soweto twice attacked police with petrol bombs.

Police Kill Two for Hijacking Car Near Alexandra

MB201511 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1509 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 20, SAPA — The SAP today shot dead two men who allegedly stole a car near Alexandra township, a spokesman for the police's Public Relations Division in Pretoria said.

He said a number of youths stopped the car in Fourth Ave, told the driver to get out and drove away.

A member of the SAP vehicle theft unit tried to follow them but was unsuccessful.

"A Sgt Coetzee then noticed the car and also tried to stop them. He fired several shots and the vehicle crashed into a wall," the spokesman said. The passenger jumped out, ran a few meters and dropped dead. The driver of the vehicle was found dead behind the steering wheel.

The identity of the two dead men is not yet known.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 20 Mar

MB201741 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1737 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 20, SAPA — Following is the police unrest report up to 7pm issued by the SAP Public Relations Division:

"On the East Rand at Kwa-Thema a group of blacks set fire to a school and in Tembisa groups of blacks set fire to a private vehicle and a delivery vehicle, causing extensive damage to it.

"At Atteridgeville near Pretoria a mob set fire to a municipal vehicle, causing extensive damage. At Etembeni in the northern Cape a group of black youths stoned a private vehicle. A councillor fired at the mob and slightly wounded two youths.

"At Kagiso on the West Rand blacks petrol-bombed a private vehicle and caused extensive damage to it. In the process one black man caught fire and sustained severe wounds.

"In Soweto near Johannesburg the SAP yesterday found large and aggressive groups of black youths in different areas around Diepkloof. The youths were mostly armed with iron rods, forks, knives and petrol bombs.

"The SAP was in fact twice attacked with petrol bombs and large amounts of petrol bombs, already manufactured and in the process of manufacturing, were found. The SAP made use of shotguns in separate incidents and one youth was fatally injured after pointing a pistol at the police (this was afterwards found to be a replica. He also had in his possession a holster and a UDF [United Democratic Front] poster).

"A further two youths were injured and eight arrested."

Early 21 Mar

MB210711 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0641 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 21, SAPA — The overnight unrest situation report to 8am from the SAP Public Relations Directorate follows:

"The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

"At Soto near El a mob destroyed thirteen huts by setting fire to them. A man and a girl were burnt to death, two women and a boy wee seriously injured while three women, two men, tow boys and two girls were slightly injured.

"At KwaZakele near PE [Port Elizabeth] police arrested two youths when SAP vehicles were stoned on a number of occasions.

"In Soweto (WWR) [Witwatersrand] a woman was burnt to death when a burning tyre was placed around her.

"At Edendale, near Pietermaritzburg, there were a number of minor incidents of stonethrowing and looting. Police fired tear-smoke to disperse mobs on a number of occasions.

"At Motherwell near PE a delivery vehicle was extensively damaged when petrol was poured over it and set alight.

"In Guguletu, in the Western Province, a private home was extensively damaged by arsonists.

"In Jouberton, near Klerksdorp, a policeman's home was stoned. The mob was dispersed with revolver and pistol fire. Two men were slightly wounded and arrested.

"In Atteridgeville a private home was petrol-bombed. Three children in the house (boys) suffered burn wounds."

Ends report.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB200716 [Editorial Report]

Hendrickse Criticizes Heunis

Political reporter Ebrahim Moosa reports on pages 1 and 2 of Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 18 March that "the Labour Party (LP) leader, the Rev Allan Hendrickse, yesterday launched a scathing attack on the tricameral system and its chief architect, Mr Chris Heunis, the minister of constitutional development and planning," accusing Heunis of arrogance for not attending a debate in the House of Representatives. "The attack is also seen as a move to alert the government not to be too complacent in assuming the LP will toe the line."

Apartheid Still 'Fashionable'

In another editorial on the same page, the *CAPE TIMES* says "we would have thought that President P.W. Botha had already done enough to scupper whatever advantages might have flowed from his speech at the opening of Parliament." However, as if Minister F.W. de Klerk's affirmation of the Group Areas Act and President Botha's repudiation of Foreign Minister Pik Botha were not enough, "in a speech at Cradock over the weekend, the minister of health services and welfare in the assembly, Dr de Villiers Morrison, backtracked even further. He explained that when President Botha referred to apartheid being 'outdated,' he really meant the colonial system of paternalism. Post-colonial, non-paternalistic apartheid is still acceptable in the Nationalist (and Presidential) mind, it seems." Morrison and President Botha should have "the courage of their convictions and admit in government circles, the most fundamental forms of apartheid are as fashionable as they ever were."

CITIZEN on Reagan Statement

In an editorial on page 6, Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 19 March comments on President Reagan's statement that South Africa's policies "continued to pose an 'unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy and economy of the United States,'" by saying "we wonder why and how. Does President Reagan think that America's interests in this region are endangered? If so, we can tell him that the threat would be far, far worse if the African National Congress took over and introduced a Marxist state." Noting that President Reagan's report to Congress insisted that U.S. economic sanctions would remain in force, the paper says this "may foreshadow a tougher stance towards South Africa. We should watch Washington carefully in the next few weeks to see whether constructive engagement is being abandoned — and if it is, we should react accordingly."

SADF Budget

"A highly successful cost-cutting campaign in the South African Defence Force has enabled it to function efficiently with an ever-smaller percentage of the state's total budget each year," the paper reports on page 17. The SADF's share of the budget has gone from 18.4 percent in 1977 to 13.7 percent in the new budget. Of this year's allocation, 121.3 million or 2 percent is allotted to "overhead command and control, which includes the ministry, departmental management and administrative services." Some 2,007.2 million rands, or 40 percent, is set aside for "landward defence, 'to counter a landward threat against the RSA and SWA,'" while maritime defense is to receive 421.2 million rands or 8 percent and air defense is to get 1,687.1 million rands or 32 percent. The remaining money is to be spent on support services, while 59.6 million rands is to go for research and development in technology.

Mine Head Urges Removing Barrier

"The Head of Rand Mines gold division, Mr Clive Knobbs, has called on the government to remove the last remaining job barrier in the mining industry, the 'scheduled person' restriction which prevents blacks from entering some of the highest-paid jobs in the industry," the paper reports on the same page. Knobbs said the Durban Roodepoort Deep and East Rand Proprietary Mines would launch an equal opportunity development program this year, adding that 32 black employees have already been appointed to skilled positions or are being trained for these posts.

Soweto Rents Reduced 50%

"Rents for Soweto flats were yesterday reduced by more than 50 percent in a heated debate in the council's Jabulani chambers," Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 19 March reports on page 2. The rent for a 3-bedroom apartment has fallen from 233 rands to 166.50 rands while rent for a 2-bedroom apartment has fallen from 185 rands to 92.50.

Column on Passport Refusal

In the "Focus" column on the page 4, Joe Thloloe says that "for more than 20 years I have been applying for a South African passport without success — that is, until the Department of Home Affairs decided to play an Olympian joke on me last week." Thloloe was issued a travel document with his nationality described as undetermined although his place of birth and of residence was given as South Africa. Commenting on this, he says "I certainly cannot explain why a man will consistently refuse to acknowledge that another is just as human and has the same needs as he has. All I can do is tell of my anger."

Changes in Export Incentive Scheme

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English for 19 March reports on page 1 that the government is to make the export incentive scheme "more cost-effective and tailor it to meet industry's needs." A major principle was that the export incentives should not conflict with the subsidies code of GATT. Trade and Industries Minister De Villiers is quoted as saying there is an "'urgent need for structural changes to reduce SA's dependence on minerals and other raw minerals,'" and that "'performance of manufacturing and service industries has to be stepped up through, among other things, improvement in technology and productivity.'"

Budget's Foreign Debt Implications

In an article on page 2 Harold Fridjhon quotes one foreign exchange manager of a major bank as saying that the finance minister failed to stress in his budget speech the longer-term implications of the foreign debt interim agreement for the economy and for the rand in particular. Meeting the repayment terms would be a heavy drain on the foreign exchange reserves and the debt agreement "was an on-going process that would constantly be affected by overseas perceptions of SA's socio-political difficulties." Importers believe the rand has more downside potential than it has of appreciating.

Fact-Finding Visitors Compared

Another editorial says that despite "initial reservations" about the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group, it has demonstrated its bona fides during its visit to South Africa. "Unlike Senator Edward Kennedy, whose 'fact-finding' mission appeared to have the sole purpose of enhancing the senator's political career," the Commonwealth group stayed out of the headlines, lending support to the view that the group was "genuinely interested" in finding the facts. We hope that President Reagan's American Advisory Committee on SA will keep an equally low profile.

Consensus Against Budget

The consensus of academics and top businessmen meeting in Cape Town yesterday was that "the budget failed dismally, as a political statement to address the country's fundamental socio-economic problems," Chris Cairncross reports on page 12. Representatives of the "stauchly Afrikaner" campuses of Pretoria and Stellenbosch universities were the most outspoken on the budget's faults. Stellenbosch University Professor Sampie Terreblanch is quoted as saying the budget "failed to face up to the realities of the issue facing South Africa," that the budget speech "contained a lot of rhetoric, devoid of any firm foundation, and was likely to raise false hopes from the man-in-the-street."

Food Aid Not Used

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 19 March reports on its front page that "the government has not used R6 million of the R10 million allocated to feed the destitute — despite widespread malnutrition. It claims it cannot find enough people who qualify for benefits from the emergency feeding scheme. The return of the funds to the Treasury has shocked welfare agencies struggling to feed starving families." According to a government spokesman, " 'the money can be used only to sponsor destitute families — those who are really on the bottom line. We could not find enough people of this category to help, and so the money was returned.' "

West Rand Schools Closed

Also on the front page, the paper reports that the Department of Education and Training has decided to suspend classes in more than 20 schools in the West Rand, putting thousands of pupils on the streets. This decision was made just 10 days before the national education crisis conference in Durban. Unrest in the areas was cited as the reason for the suspension. Townships in Potchefstroom, Orkney, Stilfontein and Klerksdorp were affected.

Commonwealth 'Wise Men'

A report from London on page 13 says that the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons may return to South Africa for further talks. The group members are "reported to be deeply shaken by what they saw and heard." The climax was their talks with Nelson Mandela, "the first time a representative international group has been able to discuss the situation with Mandela since he was imprisoned." "As it is, the group was discouraged in the last days of the visit by its talk with President Botha who was adamant that he would not take part in any dialogue with those he opposed politically — in particular the ANC leader." "The group has now 'gone away to think.' There will be much agonising over the writing of its report and it may make further visits to the region."

Inkatha-Sponsored Union

Sheryl Raine reports on the same page on the launching of the Johannesburg Branch of the Inkatha-sponsored United Workers' Union of SA (UWUSA), which is at odds with the COSATU federation. Although the formation of a procapitalist union might seem welcome to many employers, it could mean "a new wave of labour turbulence," particularly in Natal, as UWUSA and COSATU clash. UWUSA has spelled out its policies for the first time. They include the uniting of all workers regardless of color, to ensure workers have the "democratic right" to direct their leaders, and to provide services to members. The union is committed to "a free and democratic South Africa in which all participate in the formation of the Government," a campaign to free capitalism from apartheid, foreign investment, and the noninterference in labor affairs by political organizations, including Inkatha. The union said it was committed to negotiations to solve political problems, a nonconfrontational attitude to COSATU, to the one man, one vote system first but with a willingness to consider other equivalent options, and the unconditional release of Nelson Mandela.

Vehicles Taken

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans of 19 March reports on page 1 that robber gangs in Soweto have wrested more than 60 vehicles from their owners in the past 9 days. A police spokesman in Soweto said the vehicles were forcibly taken from their owners when they stopped at stop signs. The same has been happening in Alexandra near Johannesburg, where 51 vehicles have been taken since last Monday. The Soweto divisional police commissioner, General J.A.N. Coetzee, said that the vehicles are used by political groups to transport people to meetings and gatherings, and that in some cases the vehicles are returned to their owners.

Importance of Natal Option

In the "Political Beeld" column on page 10, Piet Muller writes that Chief Buthelezi of KwaZulu is both an enigma and a catalyst in South African politics, on the one side mistrusted by the ANC and the United Democratic Front and on the other seeming to lay as many thorns in the government's path as possible. Now Chief Buthelezi is aiming at a joint legislative authority for KwaZulu and Natal. "The group which is apparently most irritated by what is taking place between Chief Buthelezi and the New Republic Party-controlled Natal provincial administration is the ANC. If the Natal plan is implemented, it would be proof of the truth of Buthelezi's view that peaceful politics and diplomacy can achieve more for change in South Africa than armed violence." Muller writes that the emotional appeal of the Natal option should not be underestimated. He concludes: "The acceptance of the principle of a local option for Natal can have important consequences for other regions of the country. Up to now one has gotten the impression that our constitutinal planners are aiming at uniformity and excessive centralization.

Efforts for Unbanning

An item in the "Whiplash" column on page 6 of the Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans of 19 March says a rare development took place around the banning of two Port Elizabeth black leaders, Mkhuseli Jack and Henry Fazzie, this past week. The columnist writes that not only local businessmen but also National Party MPs are busy trying to get the two men unbanned. The two men, says the item, are that rare thing — recognizable, true black leaders, and they showed this in the manner in which they arranged order and an end to the consumer boycott in the city. "To Whiplash, they sound like the kind of people the government ought to be negotiating with, not arresting. Businessmen and some MPs think the same."

Support for Wisner Statement

On page 6, the Windhoek *DIE REPUBLIKEIN* in Afrikaans of 13 March says in an editorial that America's Frank Wisner repeated Washington's strong-man stance during his visit to Maputo this week, when he said America would not stand idly by if crisis around the Angolan war and South-West Africa worsens. "This firm warning by the Americans gives stability to South-West Africans during a period in which the diplomatic game sometimes cause them doubt."

Namibia Census Figures

Windhoek *DIE REPUBLIKEIN* in Afrikaans of 4 March reports on page 1 that the results of the 1985 census indicate that in Windhoek, Khomasdal and Katutura together, the total number of people is 97,000, of which only 30,000 are whites, while there are 17,000 coloreds and 50,000 blacks. All the whites, the figures show, live in Windhoek. The report says the figures have yet to be verified by the government before being released to the media.

WEEKLY MAIL Carries 'Apartheid Barometer'

MB171317 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English 14-20 Mar 86 p 4

["Apartheid Barometer"]

[Excerpts] **Emergency detentions (July 21 1985 - Mar 7 1986):**

Total number of people detained:	7992
Number released Mar 7:	292

Summary of emergency detention (Feb 28):

Transvaal	3398 (42.8 percent)
Eastern Cape	3246 (40.9 percent)
Western Cape	1288 (16.2 percent)

An average rate of nearly 1100 people were detained each month under the State of Emergency (over 35 a day).

Security detentions (Feb 28, 1986):

Number of persons believed to be in detention on Mar 10: 241

Summary by detention status:

Internal Security Act [ISA], S. [section] 28	8
ISA, S. 29	133
ISA, S. 50	71
ISA, S. 31	9
Ciskei National Security Act	5
Transkei Public Safety Act	6
Venda Terrorism Act	9

Persons Banned Under Emergency Regulations:

Total	68
Transvaal	5
Eastern Cape	2
Western Cape	61

Persons Banned Under Security Legislation:

Number of people banned:	12

Henry Fazzi, 56, UDF [United Democratic Front] Eastern Cape vice president and a former Robben Island prisoner and Mkhuseli Jack, 27, Port Elizabeth Youth Congress president and Eastern Cape Consumer Boycott leader, were banned for five years on Tuesday.

Political Trials:

Trials completed Dec 1985 - Feb 1986:	40
Trials completed Dec 1985:	9
Trials completed Jan 1986:	15
Trials completed Feb 1986:	16
Number on trial:	285
Number convicted:	46
Number acquitted:	77
Charges withdrawn:	162

Breakdown of people on trial:

Treason: 13 (convicted 1; acquitted 12)
Murder: 19 (convicted 5; acquitted 9; withdrawn 5)
Terrorism/furthering aims of banned organisations/possession of weapons: 50 (convicted 32; acquitted 18)
Public violence/subversion/intimidation/assault: 12 (convicted 3; acquitted 2; charges withdrawn 7)
Illegal gathering: 183 (convicted 1; acquitted 34; charges withdrawn 148)
Possession of banned literature: 6 (convicted 4; acquitted 1; charge withdrawn 1)
Breaking banning order: 1 (charge withdrawn)
Prisons Act conviction: (appeal upheld).

Number still on trial March 1:	246
Treason:	32
Internal Security Act:	214

Conscientious Objection:
Two conscientious objectors appeared before the Board of Religious Objectors last week. Phillip Wilkinson, 22, from Port Elizabeth was refused religious objector status but was granted non-combatant status which he refused to accept. David Raimund Bosch, 26, son of theologian Professor David Bosch, was granted community service.

SADF Suicides (SADF figures):
A total of 74 people serving in the SADF committed suicide in the past 30 months, Minister of Defence General Magnus Malan, said.

Group Areas Act Land Allocations:
More than 83 percent of the land proclaimed under the Group Areas Act by the end of last year was allocated for whites, the minister of constitutional development and planning, said in Parliament. 759,402 ha out of 896,572 ha were proclaimed as white group areas.

Prisoner of Conscience: Peter Mokaba
Peter Mokaba, 28, a Northern Transvaal UDF leader and former Robben Island prisoner, has been held without trial at Diepkloof (Johannesburg) prison for 271 days. He was detained under Section 28 of the Internal Security Act ("preventative detention") on July 16 last year. It is his third period of detention.

Mokaba, a UNISA [University of SA] student, is an executive member of the Mankweng Civic Association and the Mankweng Youth Congress, both UDF affiliates. In 1980, when he was a student at Turfloop University, he was one of the founders of the Azanian Students Organisation (ASAZO). Four years ago he was sent to Robben Island after being convicted for terrorism. He spent 16 months on Robben Island before being transferred to Pretoria Central and later to Pietersburg Prison while awaiting his appeal. In 1984 he was granted a re-trial after a judge found the magistrate who convicted him should have excused himself. He was eventually acquitted of the terrorism charge and was convicted for illegally possessing a firearm. He was given a completed suspended sentence in March last year, after spending three years in jail. Four months later he was detained.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 MARCH 1986

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force "completely destroyed" a large Iranian power station northeast of Ahvaz in a "surprise and devastating" raid 22 March, the Iraqi command claimed in a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Iraqi planes also raided Khark Island and hit a "large maritime target" in the Gulf the following day, according to military statements carried by the radio. Meanwhile, tugs towed a blazing supertanker away from Khark Island after the vessel was set on fire in an Iraqi air raid 20 march, the *GULF DAILY NEWS* noted.

Iranian planes bombed Iraqi targets in the Al-'Amarah and Basra areas 22 march, according to IRNA, which cited an Iranian denial of Iraqi claims that two Iranian jets were downed over the southern front that day.

In ground battles, Iraqi communiques carried by Voice of the Masses claimed successes in the mountainous Panjwin area, asserting that the Iraqis defeated Iranian attempts to recapture a number of peaks recently seized by Iraqi troops.

In political developments, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz criticized a UN Security Council statement condemning Iraq for using chemical weapons against Iran as lacking "the required balance," charging that the Council's statement "ignores in an intolerable manner the Iranian invasion of Iraqi territory and the Iranian forces' repeated offensives" against Iraq. In a memorandum to the UN secretary general that was broadcast by Voice of the Masses, 'Aziz warned against "unjustified" and "dishonest" attempts to "focus on sub-issues stemming from the conflict" and he announced that while Iraq "has shown complete readiness" to cooperate with the Security Council, it "will not accept any efforts not dealing clearly with ending the war." In its reaction to the Security Council statement, the Iranian Foreign Ministry criticized the Council's failure to condemn Iraq sooner, charging that Iraq began using chemical weapons "nearly 3 years ago." The ministry statement broadcast by Tehran radio also called on the Security Council to go beyond a condemnation of Iraq and "take steps, using all resources, to punish the aggressor."

OPEC Affairs

OPEC ministers continued their week-long deliberations in Geneva 23 March on ways to bolster oil prices and achieve market "stability," OPECNA reported. In earlier reports, AFP cited the Iranian oil minister as saying that Iran would flood the market with oil if the meeting breaks up without an agreement on production, while the Libyan oil minister affirmed that the meeting would continue until an agreement is reached. The Kuwaiti oil minister also told AFP that the delegations were encountering difficulties in allotting individual countries' quotas within the production ceiling. In a related development, Libya and Saudi Arabia agreed to coordinate their efforts to "ensure a quick return to earlier oil prices," JANA reported, citing a 23 March telephone conversation between Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and King Fahd.

Libya

JANA ended the Libyan media silence over the latest U.S. maneuvers in the Gulf of Sidra by citing a 24 March Beirut press editorial denouncing the exercises as part of a U.S. plan to impose Washington's will on the Arab world. Meanwhile, the Libyan Armed Forces commander in chief attended live ammunition exercises by Libyan military units, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported.

As for diplomatic contacts, a 24 March JANA report on a meeting between Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and the Soviet ambassador noted that their talks focused on "the current international situation." In another development, Col al-Qadhdhafi received Algerian Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi 23 march, JANA noted. Commenting on his visit to Libya in remarks reported by Algiers radio, Brahimi disclosed that Libya and Algeria have agreed to double the volume of trade exchange and he also stated that Algeria has agreed to supply Libya with natural gas.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak received visiting Soviet delegation leader Pavel Gilashvili 24 March, MENA reported. Gilashvili, the deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, stated earlier that there will soon be an exchange of visits by senior officials of both countries, according to MENA.

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat also visited Cairo over the weekend, stating after a 23 March meeting with Mubarak that the current "dead end" in Mideast peace talks is due to U.S. "obstinacy," MENA reported. As for Egyptian-Israeli relations, Jerusalem radio disclosed that Israel will protest to Egypt over the content of an "inflammatory" anti-Israeli article in the Cairo paper *AL-JUMHURIYAH*. Meanwhile, Egyptian papers cited by MENA stated that Egyptian police have detained a large number of suspects in connection with the 19 March attack on four Israelis in Cairo. Nevertheless, sources close to the investigation revealed that the police have no firm leads in their hunt for the perpetrators, AFP reported.

Israel

Security forces have arrested a number of Fatah terrorist squads in Jerusalem and the West Bank, the IDF spokesman disclosed in a statement reported by Jerusalem radio 23 March. The gangs are believed to be responsible for a number of bomb attacks in Israel during 1985-86.

Sudan-Ethiopia

Ethiopia is "directly involved" in military operations in southern Sudan, conducting reconnaissance flights and providing logistical support for the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), Sudanese Defense Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah said in an *AL SAHAFAH* interview reported by SUNA. Calling the Ethiopian support for the SPLA "a flagrant and deliberate violation," 'Abdallah warned that foreign interference in southern Sudan "will lead the entire region to a disaster."

In earlier developments, Sudan's National Alliance for National Salvation and the SPLA continued their meetings in Koka, Ethiopia 22 March, Addis Ababa radio reported. In a speech at the 21 March session that was broadcast by the clandestine SPLA radio, SPLA Commander in Chief John Garang wished the participants success, calling on them to reject "sectarianism" and work toward building "a new Sudan." But Garang also accused the Transitional Military Council (TMC) of adopting a series of resolutions aimed against the SPLA and he announced that under present conditions a cease-fire between the TMC and SPLA is "out of the question." Garang called the TMC's plans to hold national elections "ridiculous," maintaining that unless his group is involved in the preparations for elections it will not be bound by their "constitutionality."

In his speech at the 22 March session, National Alliance Chairman Khalid Yaji was optimistic that the meeting would result in a "definite determination to put an end to this bloodshed" between Sudanese factions, and he appealed to the SPLA to consider the meeting as a "unique opportunity" for the sides to achieve national unity.

DRA

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned President Reagan's "Afghanistan Day" message, claiming it was full of "fabrications, falsehoods, and the lunatic hostility" of the U.S. Administration against the DRA Government and people. The ministry statement broadcast by Kabul radio also accused the U.S. Administration of beginning a "qualitatively new phase in its anti-Afghan policy."

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Abu Nidal Said Ready To Join Palestinian Group

NC231432 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1420 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], head of Fatah's Revolutionary Council, is preparing to give up the clandestine activities he has been carrying out for the last 12 years. Abu Nidal, who is responsible for several terrorist operations, has decided to join the Palestinian Salvation Front, an organization supported by Syria and opposed to 'Arafat.

Khalaf on PLO Willingness to Aid Gulf Against Iran

GF240550 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 24 Mar 86 pp 1, 2

[Text] The PLO is willing to help defend Iraq or any other Arab Gulf country threatened militarily by Iran, says a top official.

Salah Khalaf, Yasir 'Arafat's right hand man, told a press conference in Bahrain, the PLO was seeking pan-Arab solidarity as a substitute to the movement's joint efforts with Jordan for a Mideast solution.

Khalaf, known as Abu Iyad, defied King Husayn of Jordan to unilaterally abrogate the Jordanian-Palestinian Amman accord for joint Mideast peace action.

The king in February declared the joint effort suspended and Khalaf complained the move has "confused the situation, turning it into a confrontation between Jordan and the PLO instead of what it should be:

"A collision between the PLO and Jordan on the one side and the U.S. and Israel on the other."

Khalaf deplored the February 8 invasion of the Iraq's Faw peninsula and the repeated threats to Kuwait and other Gulf Arab powers by Iran.

"We Palestinians share the prosperity of these Arab countries and we are determined to share their sorrow too...we will help defend these countries against any external intervention."

He stressed that no Palestinians were fighting alongside Iraq against Iran, expressing hopes the conflict would end soon.

"We were against Iraq when its forces entered Iranian territory and now we are against the presence of Iranian troops on Iraqi soil," he said.

Khalaf denounced the United States for insisting that the PLO accept the UN Security Council Resolution 242 because, he complained, "it does not recognize the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination."

He admitted the Jordan-PLO peace bid has "reached a dead-end, and the only alternative now is to attain pan-Arab solidarity."

"We want Egypt back in the Arab fold...we want a unified Arab stance in the face of not merely the Israeli menace but intra-Arab bickering as well," Khalaf said.

"Arab solidarity would help end the Iran-Iraq war, help Sudan avert the threat of being divided, defuse the Lebanese crisis, face the American threats to Libya...Arab solidarity would be a panacea."

The Egyptian Government has asked the PLO to accept Resolution 242.

But Khalaf commended Cairo for demanding the Palestinians be accorded the right to exercise self-determination in an independent state of their own on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

New Dissident Palestinian Movement Expected

GF211416 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 20 Mar 86 p 1, 14

["Exclusive" report]

[Text] *AL-BAYAN* has learned that the Palestinian leadership is expecting the emergence of a dissident Palestinian movement in the Jordanian arena led by the former chairman of Fatah military intelligence 'Atallah 'Atallah, alias Abu al-Za'im.

Prominent leading Palestinian sources have said that Abu al-Za'im — who is trying to attract a great number of Fatah cadres in Jordan and others who have left Syria to join his new dissident movement — has so far succeeded in mobilizing a small group of uninfluential elements.

The sources revealed that Abu al-Za'im recently delivered a speech to Fatah cadres in Al-Karamah camp in Jordan in which he attacked the senior leaders of the Palestinian revolution, especially Yasir 'Arafat, Salah Khalaf, and Faruq Qaddumi. He has refused a number of requests to return to Tunis.

It is expected that a decision will be taken shortly to bring Abu al-Za'im before a Palestinian investigation panel, a matter which will accelerate the announcement of this new dissident movement.

Some Palestinian sources explained the stance of Abu al-Za'im, who was once known to be devoted to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, saying that he had sought a prominent role in the Palestinian arena in Jordan or Egypt but 'Arafat — who knows the extent of the sensitivity of his colleagues toward the stances of Abu al-Za'im — stood in his way.

Meanwhile, the leading Palestinian sources said that there is no chance at present for a meeting between Yasir 'Arafat and Jordanian monarch King Husayn.

The leading Palestinian sources added that in view of the current political atmosphere no serious move to conduct peace negotiations is possible. The sources pointed out that the future of a political move appears to be heading toward the dark side and that any change in the situation will be related to current regional moves, such as the possibility of a new escalation of the Iraq-Iran war, the results of the expected summit between President Hafiz al-Asad and King Husayn, the Palestinian issue, and the results of possible fighting in Lebanon between the Amal movement and the Hizballah.

The sources stated that beliefs currently are concentrated on finding a place for a Palestinian political role in the region which would be an effective power for the Palestinian revolution in Lebanon, free of the influence of regional powers.

'Arafat on Syria, Husayn, Iran-Iraq War

GF221029 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0910 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Mar (WAKH) — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has described his talks with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan as constructive and lucrative. He said they discussed various developments in the Arab and international scene, foremost being the efforts being made to end the Iraq-Iran war.

In an interview published today in the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, 'Arafat said he sensed a response and cooperation from Shaykh Zayid on all issues discussed, particularly regarding the conditions of the Palestinians in the UAE. He reiterated his thanks to Shaykh Zayid for resuming financial aid to the PLO.

The Palestinian leader expressed satisfaction over the support given to the PLO by the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories. The PLO will never change its policy aimed at establishing just peace on the land of Palestine. It will continue to struggle for this goal, he said. 'Arafat discussed various issues; the most important was the PLO's relations with Jordan. The PLO has calmly responded to King Husayn's speech, which announced a halt in coordination with the PLO leadership. The PLO will continue to make efforts in order to consolidate cooperation between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples, he said.

Concerning Syrian-Palestinian relations, 'Arafat reiterated that the PLO has opened a dialogue with Syria and has stopped its media campaigns and said that it does not want to indulge in details and prefers to leave this to brothers in the Syrian leadership. He defended the PLO's policy on the current efforts to achieve Palestinian unity: The PLO proceeds in accordance with PNC resolutions and their invariables. The PLO welcomes any efforts to bring back Palestinian factions to the PLO, he said.

Discussing the Iraq-Iran war, 'Arafat expressed regret that the Iranian leadership has not responded to the Islamic Good Office Committee's efforts at a time when Iraq has repeatedly welcomed these efforts. He affirmed that the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war greatly harms the Palestinian issue and the potential of the two Muslim countries and that the PLO sincerely wants this tragic war to stop.

PLO Radio Reports on PLO-SFRY Joint Communique

JN211820 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The PLO and SFRY stressed the need to establish peace in the Middle East, the Zionist forces' withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state after recognition of the Palestinian people's inalienable, historic rights. In a joint communique issued in Tunis and Belgrade at the conclusion of brother leader Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] visit to the SFRY the day before yesterday, the two sides stressed the need to involve the PLO in any international effort aimed at resolving the Palestine question in its capacity as the Palestinian people's sole, legitimate representative.

'Arafat on SFRY, Romania Visit, Soviet Relations

GF231522 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 22 Mar 86 p 9

[Interview with Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, by *AL-ITTIHAD* correspondent Hamid Zaydan — date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Hamid Zaydan] What about your recent visit to Yugoslavia? Is there any Yugoslav initiative?
[Yasir 'Arafat] This is not correct. During my visit I discussed with the Yugoslav leaders important and basic issues, foremost of which is the Palestinian issue. Yugoslavia adopts a principled and committed stand toward the Palestinian issue, the rights of the Palestinian people, the Palestinian struggle, and the PLO.

[Zaydan] What about your visit to Romania made before your visit to Yugoslavia?
['Arafat] The visit came in response to prior invitations.

[Zaydan] Does Romania have any initiatives for peace in the region, or any indirect contacts, or anything else in this regard?
['Arafat] There is no doubt that during my contacts with those friends I sensed their increasing efforts to continue their attempts on all levels to accelerate the Palestinian issue.

[Zaydan] What about your visit to Moscow? Has it been decided? Is it still proposed?
['Arafat] It was not included on my agenda, but a Palestinian delegation visited Moscow to attend the 27th CPSU Congress as the newspapers said. The visit is not proposed now.

[Zaydan] Is it true that the Soviets said that if Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] comes, Moscow will receive him?
['Arafat] Of course. Therefore, I say that relationship between us and our Soviet friends is strong. We are proud of this relationship. However, the Arab information media are not correct in their reports about my expected visit.

[Zaydan] Does this question have any connection with the Soviet Union's position toward Palestinian unity?
['Arafat] Undoubtedly. A Palestinian delegation visited Moscow before the convening of the 27th CPSU congress. During that visit, Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] met with Soviet

Foreign Minister Shevardnadze and discussed with him a number of common issues, including the situation in our Palestinian arena. Our Soviet friends stressed the need for the return of the dissident Palestinian factions to the PLO and supported the return of the brothers so that they can assume their work inside the PLO. Our delegation told our Soviet friends that it welcomes any Soviet efforts in this direction.

'Arafat Interviewed on Palestinian Situation

GF210819 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0650 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Interview with Yasir 'Arafat, alias Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, by an unidentified Abu Dhabi radio announcer — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Brother Abu 'Ammar, concerning your recent statement to the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* on the Palestinian-Syrian meeting, this statement implies that efforts for Palestinian-Syrian reconciliation have made progress. Would you provide further details on this?
[Yasir 'Arafat] In fact, I want always to put the masses in a clear view. There are Palestinian-Syrian contacts. We hope that these contacts will succeed. Let us follow the proverb which says: "Do your affairs privately." We do not want to make propaganda for this. We want to achieve results. So let us wait for a while and hope that these efforts will succeed.

[Announcer] Abu 'Ammar, you have claimed in a press statement that you are ready to immediately resume coordination with His Majesty King Husayn. We also know that efforts are being made to achieve reconciliation between the PLO and the Jordanian Government following King Husayn's speech announcing a halt to political coordination with the PLO. The question is, what is the future of the joint move with Jordan in light of the current Arab and international situation, particularly if the United States insists on its known stand toward the PLO?
['Arafat] As for the United States, it will continue to insist on its stand. This stand is based on the arrogance of power [last three words in English]. Not only does the United States continue to follow its political and media stand, what is more serious is that U.S. President Reagan has embroiled himself in the Arab-Israeli conflict. This has been manifested in the strategic agreement between him and the Israeli enemy and participation in the raid against the PLO headquarters in Tunis. In 1 month, this involvement was mainfested in the use of veto by the United States three times against the Arab nation to protect Israel's Judaization policy against the holy places and attempts to demolish the Al-Aqsa mosque to establish the Solomon temple in its place. Nothing is more serious than this embroilment. I say to all Americans that Reagan is making the same mistake which President Johnson made when he was involved in the Vietnam war. I want to address the U.S. arrogance of power [last three words in English] that we will not be the losers in this (?land). Let them know that the flood and volcano which I talked about as I left Beirut still continue in the region and that other interests, not only Arab interests in the region, will be harmed.

[Announcer] What of the future of coordination between the PLO and Jordan?
['Arafat] Concerning the other part of the question, of course there have been, right from the first moment, Iraqi and Egyptian attempts to mediate between us and brothers in Jordan to achieve a ground far from crisis and escalation. King Fahd also expressed the same fraternal attitude during my recent visit with him in Riyadh. There are also Arab attempts which we hope will succeed because we do not want to escalate the situation. It is King Husayn who stopped coordination. This question should be directed to him.

[Announcer] Abu 'Ammar, as you know, the recent escalation in the Iraq-Iran war took new dimensions. Do you expect that the current efforts to stop this war will succeed?
['Arafat] I sincerely hope that they will succeed, particularly when the Iranian leadership has so far rejected all good office efforts by the ICO, the Nonaligned Movement, the United Nations, and other parties at a time when Iraq has accepted all of these efforts to stop the war, which is against the interest of the Iraqi and Iranian people, the Muslim and Arab nation, and against the Palestinian people and the Palestinian issue in particular. I say to the Iranian leadership that if this war continues, it will be the main obstacle to the liberation of Jerusalem, the first Qiblah and the third among the holiest mosques.

Fatah's Salah Khalaf, Salim al-Za'nun Visit Qatar

GF220626 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1825 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Doha, 21 Mar (WAKH) — Salah Khalaf and Salim al-Za'nun, members of the Fatah Central Committee, arrived in Doha this evening on a 2-day visit to Qatar within the framework of their current tour of a number of Arab Gulf countries.

During their tour, the two Fatah officials will brief officials in the region's countries on the new Arab developments in general and Palestinian developments in particular.

Fatah's Salah Khalaf Calls For Arab Summit

GF231658 Manama WAKH in English 1610 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Manama, 23 Mar (WAKH) — Member of the Central Committee of Palestine National Liberation Movement Fatah Salah Khalaf affirmed the necessity of holding an Arab summit to discuss all marginal differences and discuss dangers facing the Arabs.

At a press conference held in Manama today, Mr Khalaf stressed the dangers of the current stage and challenges facing the Arabs due to the latest escalation of the Iraq-Iran war, American threats to Libya, the deteriorated situation on the Lebanese arena and south Sudan, and the Palestinian cause.

"Finding solidarity among Arab countries will solve all these problems and help us confront these dangers and challenges," he said.

He stressed the importance of convening an international conference to solve the Palestinian cause to be attended by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and with the participation of all parties concerned with the issue.

He renewed the PLO'S rejection of Resolution No 242 as it does not tackle the core of the issue but only treats the issue of borders between Arabs and Israel.

Khalaf said U.S. pressure on the organisation to accept Resolution No. 242 under the pretext of making use of the opportunities will not scare us." [no opening quotes as received]

He stressed the right of Palestinian people to self-determination in their homeland under the leadership of the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative.

He said that Jordanian-Palestinian coordination will not stop. "Our battle is not with Jordan, but with the United States which is rejecting the principle of self-determination for the Palestinian people," he added.

Mr. Khalaf condemned the latest Iranian offensive on Iraq, calling on Iran to resort to logic to put an end to the war which only benefits the enemies of the Arab and Islamic nation. He hailed Iraq's stance which favours a peaceful end to the war.

Qaddumi Grants Interview to KHALEEJ TIMES

GF211108 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English
21 Mar 85 p 4

[Interview with Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, by John Bulloch, "on behalf of the Gulf Centre for Strategic Studies" — date and place not given]

[Text] Q. What is the purpose of your visit to London.
A. I have come here to meet people, the leaders of the opposition, of the Labour Party, the Liberals, the Social Democrats, and the representatives of the syndicates, the trades unions. Generally, to have a round of talks with our friends in the United Kingdom.

Q. You will also be seeing some government officials?
A. This may also be on the agenda.

Q. And what will you be telling them, what is your message now?
A. Well, in fact I have no message to give them. We just have to discuss the latest developments in the Middle East.

Q. Given what has happened in Amman, and King Husayn's statement that the peace process, his talks with Mr 'Arafat, are at an end, how do you see it all now. Where can we go from here?
A. This is not the only way through which peace can go ahead, in order to reach the objective that we are aiming for. This was one of the attempts that proved to be a failure — as a result of the attitude of the United States, because they have rejected and denied the Palestinian peoples right to self-determination. They do not change their attitude, and remain as hostile as ever to the rights of the Palestinians.

Q. But the Americans did move, didn't they, in the talks with King Husayn and Mr 'Arafat. The Americans had offered something new — they were willing to go along with an international conference at last and they were willing to accept a separate Palestinian delegation at that conference. Wasn't that something quite new?
A. I don't think so. The Americans did not accept anything. They danced in their place only, but they did not move.

Q. They are saying they did.
A. Movement means that you make progress, but they have made no progress in this course. On the contrary, they have blocked the way for any further conference, any progress. They will not accept an international conference.

Q. They say they did.
A. No. I challenge any official who says he accepts an international conference. There is a difference between an international umbrella and an effective and competent international conference. They were just talking about an umbrella. The spokesman of the American secretary of state said they agreed only on the international umbrella, but no details should be discussed. And they agreed to the participation of the Palestinians, not the PLO. And he said that even if the PLO would accept and recognize Resolution 242, they would not buy a chair at the negotiating table. Not the PLO, just some group of Palestinians. They wanted to deny us a national identity.

Q. You put up three drafts calling for self-determination?
A. Yes. They were rejected, each one of them.

Q. King Husayn was quite bitter, and though he may not have said it in his speech, was putting the blame on the PLO. Why?
A. He was frustrated, I think. King Husayn was promised by the Americans but they did not fulfil their promises so he became a little bit distraught and frustrated with the Americans. But that he should blame the weak party — that is understandable.

Q. If you — Mr 'Arafat — had said OK, we accept Resolution 242, what would have happened?
A. If! You know these hypothetical question, I don't like them. It's as if 'if' was my name! It would mean if we accepted that we are only refugees and not a people, which means that conflicts between states and the PLO have nothing to do with it. We would have recognised the right of Israel to exist without getting anything in return. It would mean accepting 1967 boundaries as the Israeli boundaries, which we don't.

Q. Would't most Palestinians settle for 1967 boundaries now and think that was quite good?
A. I don't think so.

Q. So where do we go from here?
A. We have to continue our struggle on all fronts, the diplomatic front, the political front, the armed struggle.

Q. What about Mr 'Arafat's Cairo declaration?
A. He said the armed struggle would be confined to the occupied territories, that's right, but all Palestine is occupied, and this means that we continue our struggle in the occupied territories, and this is something exactly right.

Q. But you would be against hijackings and so on?
A. We have to retaliate in case they launch an attack against our people or installations outside the occupied territories. This should be reciprocal.

Q. On the diplomatic front, which is what you are chiefly concerned about, how do we proceed. Is it a question of trying to get unity among the Arab states and unity among the Palestinians?
A. We are doing our best in order to reinforce and consolidate national unity and Arab solidarity. It is very important in this new stage to increase our efforts to consolidate the unity inside the PLO and in the Arab world, to enhance solidarity among different Arab states.

Q. We could have said that at any time in the last 15 years or so. The Arab world now is as divided as it was 15 years ago. You are making no progress.
A. They were divided but they united to fight Israel in 1973.

Q. They haven't been united since.
A. Well, I think this means that they are not split, and when they realise that their divisions may hurt their cause they are supposed to come to the Arab League and consolidate their efforts and support solidarity among themselves. There are many reasons for divisions. We are not asking for them to become one state.

Q. On the Palestinian side we have divisions. There are a lot of people sitting in Damascus...?
A. It has to be clear that there is only the PLO and all are inside the PLO. But this is democracy. They might not agree with the present leadership of the PLO. You have the same thing, the Labour Party, the Conservative Party, the Socialists, the Communists and the others in France, so this is democracy. But all of us have one national political programme that all of us agree.

Q. At the last PNC in Amman only about 70 percent of the PLO was represented.
A. That's a good percentage — Seventy percent! De Gaulle did not get that and, therefore, he resigned.

Q. You mentioned the leadership, and there is considerable talk now about that, and many people think there is a need for change. What is your attitude?
A. The National Council has the right to change the leadership and they can discuss all the items on the agenda of the National Council - to change the leadership, to bring another leadership, to change half of the leadership, to do whatever they want if they think it will serve the cause of the Palestinian people.

Q. When is the next PNC due?
A. It is supposed to meet this year, it has to meet, but we have not fixed the time for the meeting yet.

Q. And would you expect the question of the leadership to be on the agenda at the PNC meeting?
A. I don't think the present leadership would put this on the agenda but it is supposed to be, it is one of the procedures to be followed that the chairman should present the resignation to the National Council at each meeting, at each session. It is the time for the leadership to resign and then another leadership would be elected.

Q. Do you think that's possible?
A. Yes.

Q. What about your personal position. Have you agreed all the time with what Abu Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has done?
A. It doesn't mean that we agree - nobody would agree with the other all the time. Even I don't agree with my wife, but still we are living together for 25 years! This is the same thing: differences in views is definitely necessary in order to approve the final decisions which we take as a collective leadership.

Q. It seems to me you are taking a very long view of things, that you don't expect any quick action, quick results?
A. I don't think so. I don't expect quick things, no.

Q. What effect would changes in Israel have?
A. This makes no difference. They have the same strategy but they are different in their tactics. I don't believe the Labour alignment would be willing to negotiate. Obviously, the Labour Party is the party who launched two wars against Arabs. That is the Labour Party.

Q. In the West Bank, does the PLO represent the West Bank people?
A. Yes, more than 90 percent.

Q. The Israelis want people to take over, and Mr al-Masri did and was killed. What is the future there?
A. It is necessary that the people in the West Bank are not with the planning being implemented by the military authorities or by the Israelis. This is what the Israelis intend to do, to have this scene, lots of government for the colonists. We don't agree to that, neither the PLO nor the people in the West Bank. Al-Masri was not a part of that and he was not intending to be, but the planning of the Israelis is to contain the West Bank and to split it from the PLO, but the West Bank people, all together, are with the PLO, and insist that the PLO be the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

Q. But it is a very long slow process which has been going on since '48, and in fact it's got worse, hasn't it?
A. I don't think it has got worse. I should say that in 1950 when Trygve Lie presented the ause of Palestine as a refugee case, as a social problem ... [elipses as published] Now, things have changed, changed since 1974. We have become the sole representative of the Palestinian people. Now our people, all together, have become one united entity. Instead of being divided between Iraelis and West Bank and Gaza, now they are all Palestinians in one body, called the PLO recognised by the overwhelming majority of the United Nations.

Q. But they are living in the camps, in the disaspora, or under occupation.
A. (Silence)

Q. There has been no advance?
A. Well, that's all right. You know the Israelis, or the Jews, they

claim they have been there since thousands of years. Do you think we will be cowed in one century or two centuries. We are ready to fight until we regain our whole rights.

Q. Whole rights. The whole of Palestine?

A. Whole rights. Self-determination, the independent state of Palestine, and return to Palestine.

Q. This is going to take generations?
A. Well, why not, peace may take generations. But I am more optimistic than you are: it will take less time. Some decades, a few decades, not generations.

Further Coverage On OPEC Geneva Conference

Decision Expected 24 March

LD231933 Vienna OPECNA in English 1906 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 23 Mar. 86 (OPECNA) — OPEC oil ministers adjourned their deliberations until Monday [24 MArch] morning following two sessions today.

Sources close to the conference said the ministers would hold further consultations tonight and prepare proposals aimed at reaching a final decision Monday. The ministers began their 77th (extraordinary) conference meeting last Sunday to formulate measures to stabilize the oil market and strengthen prices.

Five non-OPEC producing countries — Angola, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico and Oman — which joined the talks here at OPEC'S invitation, have expressed their readiness to cooperate with the organization, according to Dr Arturo Hernandez-Grisanti, current OPEC president.

Grisanti Blocks Output Limit

AU231956 Paris AFP in English 1941 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Geneva, March 23 (AFP) — The Venezuelan OPEC president, Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, blocked agreement on Sunday on an OPEC compromise providing for a lowering of the 13 OPEC countries overall output to 14 million barrles a day (MBD), a ministerial source told AFP.

Mr Hernandez Grisanti told other ministers he would have to consult with his president, Jaime Jusinchi, the source said. Other sources said he had made it clear that he could not "cut by one barrel" wihtout referring the matter to his president.

Venezuelan delegation officials declined any comment, and insisted that discussions here are "confidential."

Iran also raised objections to a compromise proposal on national production quotas under the 14 MBD ceiling proposed for the second quarter, Arab sources said. They said they expected a solution on this point, however.

The sources said Indonesia's energy minister, Dr Subroto, a former OPEC president, met the Iranian and Libyan delegation heads here tonight in a bid to smooth the way for an agreement.

Dr Subroto was asked by the other 12 ministers earlier today to draw up propsoals for a temporary cutback in national production quotas under the proposed ceiling of 14 MBD, which means a three MBD cutback compared with current OPEC production levels.

UAE Minister Wants To Leave

AU241000 Paris AFP in English 0951 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 24 (AFP) — There is no agreement in view at the meeting here of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Emirates Oil Minister Mani Sa'id al-'Utayba said Monday [24 March], as talks resumed.

"We have no agreement on (production) quotas or on ceilings, I can't see an agreement," he said. He added that a compromise proposal Sunday night by Indonesian Minister Dr. Subroto had been opposed by several delegations. Venezuela's team declared open opposition.

The Emirates minister also said: "My quota is decided in Abu Dhabi, not here. I want to go home."

Monday was the ninth day of the Geneva meeting.

Rejects Proposed Quota

GF241036 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'utaybah has declared that the UAE refuses to have anyone determine its quota [of oil production] and that the UAE is prepared to make as much sacrifices as anyone else. He said: The UAE, which in the past used to let others determine its production quota, will not now allow anyone to determine its quota.

Al-'utaybah's declaration follows the statement by Indonesian Mining and Energy Minister Dr Subroto — who was charged with fixing the production quotas of OPEC member states — in which he declared that the UAE's quota will be only 900,000 barrels per day [BPD]. *AL-ITTIHAD* has learned that Al-'utaybah has made an official request to increase the UAE's production quota to 1.5 million BPD, of which 1 million barrels are the quota for the amirate of Abu Dhabi while the remainder are the quota for the other UAE amirates.

The petroleum and natural resources minister said: The proposed quota is not proportional with the UAE's oil reserves nor with its production capability of 4 million BPD. He said that during the 1983 OPEC conference in London the UAE agreed to a quota of 950,000 BPD for the amirate of Abu Dhabi alone and that the other amirates will produce as much as their production average in addition to Abu Dhabi's quota.

AL-ITTIHAD has also learned that Ramzi Salman, the leader of the Iraqi delegation to the OPEC conference, has strongly opposed the proposal to maintain Iraq's quota at its previous level of 1.1 million BPD. In a statement to *AL-ITTIHAD*, OPEC sources said that during the conference's evening session yesterday [Kuwaiti Oil and Industry Minister] Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah informed the conference that he is compelled to withdraw his agreement to the quota allocated to Kuwait, namely 787,000 BPD, as he had sensed that most OPEC member states do not agree to the proposed plan for the distribution of quotas.

Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani informed the conference that it has become difficult for him to persuade his government to agree to reduce Saudi Arabia's quota by 19.8 percent, as differences over the quotas have emerged at the conference.

OPEC oil ministers are scheduled to resume their meetings later today.

Price War Still Possible

GF230843 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0720 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 23 Mar (WAKH) — Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, has affirmed that the circumstances which led to the outbreak of the oil price war still exist.

In a statement to a WAKH correspondent in Geneva, Dr Al-'Utaybah urged all OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producing countries to agree among themselves on shouldering the burden of defending the oil market. Al-'Utaybah was responding to a question on whether the extraordinary OPEC session currently meeting in Geneva can be regarded as an end to the price war.

He added: "All oil-producing countries, both those which have attended the current OPEC meetings and the North Sea producers, must bear the responsibility for defending the price for a barrel of oil."

He said that it is not fair that a particular group of countries, whose economies depend entirely on oil, should shoulder the burden while rich and industrial countries continue to adopt an irresponsible policy toward the oil market.

Dr al-'Utaybah described the oil price as an economic war which harms everyone and afects all countries' economies. He referred to the unsuccessful efforts made within OPEC in order to find a solution that would avert such a war.

The UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources affirmed that OPEC countries, including the Arab countries in the Gulf, have been compelled to reduce production and tighten their belts in order to defend the oil market. As a result, they lost many clients, which affected their economic and social development, at a time when the non-OPEC oil-producing countries continued to increase production to full capacity .

Dr al-'Utaybah reviewed the oil situation and its effects on OPEC. He said: "We discovered last December that it is difficult for us to defend oil prices through our economy and consequently we decided to abandon the role of preserving a balanced market. OPEC, like other producers, allowed market factors to act freely."

Dr al-'Utaybah believes that the solution must be comprehensive and take into consideration the role of all oil-producing countries, since these countries play a role in bearing responsibility for defending the market in a just and balanced way that is proportional to the amount of production, and strategic oil reserves, in addition to the production capacity of every country, and the separate financial requirements and economic situation of every country.

Talks Resume 23 March

NC231026 Paris AFP in English 1014 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 23 (AFP) — Oil Ministers of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries Sunday [23 March] resumed negotiations here in the hopes of reaching agreement on limiting their output to stabilize the oil market.

Ministers said as they entered the meeting that they "hoped" the 13 member countries could agree. "Everything is possible," United Arab Emirates Minister Mani Ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah told reporters.

Kuwaiti Minister Comments

LD230936 Kuwait KUNA in English 0803 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 23 (KUNA) — Oil Minister Sheikh 'Ali al-Khalifah was quoted here Sunday as denying reports that Kuwait is blocking agreement on a new OPEC production ceiling and individual quotas and stressed that Kuwait had demonstrated maximum flexibility.

In separate statements to dailies *AL-WATAN* and *AL-ANBA'*, the minister said "the problem does not rest in setting a ceiling but allocating quotas within this ceiling."

He said any talk about reducing the current 17 million barrels a day ceiling is meaningless because some members are not only refusing to trim their outputs but believe their present quotas are unfair.

"If they talk of 14 million barrels a day then we agree and if they mention 15 millions a day we also agree," Sheikh 'Ali said adding that "if a choice is made to set individual quotas first and reach a ceiling (?then all) this is also acceptable to us.

"We are seeking a formula applicable to all parties and, following all this flexibility how can it be said that we are blocking a deal," the Kuwaiti official asked.

Affirming Kuwait's keenness on restoring market and price stability, Sheikh 'Ali said the Gulf state is willing to cut her current OPEC quota of 900,000 barrels a day "but it would be unacceptable for us to be asked to produce 200,000 barrels a day only."

The minister said it is better for OPEC to reach agreement now before tomorrow. "If we fail to conclude an agreement today, we will be forced to strike a deal in two months, but all of us will be losers by then."

He said Kuwait had proposed forming an experts committee within OPEC or from the outside to decide on a new ceiling and production quotas based on a set of criteria such as population size, gross national income and oil reserves.

The minister blamed the stalemate in the current OPEC conference on some political factors, which he did not identify, and attempts by some members to make gains at the expense of others.

Sheikh 'Ali stressed the pressing need for reaching a comprehensive agreement as a first step towars driving up oil prices, the (?drop of) which, he said "had hurt us all."

Production Cut Reported

LD222105 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1902 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 22 Mar (KUNA) — OPEC meeting sources said that the ministers who have been meeting here since last week have decided today to lower the petroleum organization's production ceiling to 14 million barrels per day [MBD].

The sources told KUNA that Gulf countries petroleum ministers have agreed to lower their countries' production levels but they have stipulated that members must adhere to a lower production level [as received]. In this context it was said that the countries which want to raise their production shares are Iraq, Ecuador, Iran, Gabon and Nigeria.

The ministers' agreement on lowering the production ceiling from 16 MBD comes after 7 days of deliberating and negotiating which led to a preliminary conclusion that necessity compels OPEC to lower its daily production to maintain a reasonable level for the price of a barrel of oil.

Conference sources said that lowering production will not become effective unless all members, without exception, agreed to the proposed reduction. In this context, it is understood that there is an agreement among OPEC ministers to the effect that if an agreement stipulating that the maximum level of the production ceiling must be 15 MBD is not reached, the emergency meeting, which has been held here since last Saturday, will end tomorrow.

Most delegates dismissed a statement made last night by the current OPEC chairman, the Venezuelian Petroleum and Mines Minister Arturo Grisanti in which he said that OPEC would defend the official price of 28 dollars [unspecified] for a barrel of oil.

Despite the pessimism that dominates the conference proceedings, according to observers there is a chance on the horizon of the possibility that the emergency conference would lead to an agreement later tonight.

New Ceiling Discussed

AU222131 Paris AFP in English 2116 GMT 22 Mar 86

[By Jan Kristiansen]

[Text] Geneva, March 22 (AFP) — Oil ministers of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries may wind up their week-long emergency talks here in a day or two limiting their output to around 14.5 million barrels a day (MBD) in the second quarter, delegation officials said tonight.

uf blank,] The figure was thrown into the bargaining between conservative Gulf countries led by Saudi Arabia and the organisation's three "hardliners" — Algeria, Iran and Libya — by Dr. Subroto of Indonesia, which forms the "middle-of-the-road" group here with Nigeria and Venezuela.

In talks with five non-OPEC oil producers that wound up here Friday [21 March] night, the OPEC countries and their partners — Angola, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico and Oman — set a "common objective" of restoring and "defending" OPEC's official reference price of 28 dollars a barrel for the Arabian light grade.

To achieve this target, "we have to cut production at least for the next six months so that the market will respond", Libya's Energy Secretary Fawzi Shakshuki told Agence France-Presse tonight.

He said the ministers were seeking to work out "provisional quotas for the next six months" pending a more permanent redistribution of individual quotas among the 13 member countries.

Mani' Ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, oil minister of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), also said that the ministers intended to defer the issue of longer term quota adjustments. He said that this is "something to be left for some time later."

Mr. Shakshuki confirmed that the ministers were now thinking in terms of a seasonal production ceiling of 14 to 15 MBD — "14.2, 14.3 or 14.5," he added.

OPEC's output is currently running at just over 17 MBD.

The organisation set a ceiling of 16 MBD at the end of 1984, but member countries have disregarded it since the middle of last year.

Mr. Al-'Utaybah, interviewed by an American TV network, said the right approach for OPEC countries was to "protect our market, protect our (market) share, produce at a level that will generate enough income for us, and at the same time have a fair price."

He said that "any price increase must be gradual, so as to avoid sharp shocks" that could unsettle the world economy.

Mr. Al-'Utaybah and other ministers reaffirmed the need for non-OPEC countries in addition to the five involved in this week's consultations here to cut back on their output in order to stabilize the market.

The OPEC ministers suspended their talks at midday Saturday to pursue a series of bilateral contacts. They set their next session for Sunday morning, and several delegates said they hope to wind up the meeting during the day.

Iran Threatens To Flood Market

AU221500 Paris AFP in English 1455 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 22 (AFP) — Iran's Oil Minister Gholamreza Aghazadeh today threatened to flood the market with crude oil if the current Geneva meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) breaks up without agreement on production cutbacks in order to bolster oil prices.

"If we do not reach any agreement every state will be free to use its whole capacity, and I am in a position to say that Iraq will not be able to stop us from exporting, or harm us," he said in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

"Today we are able to produce more than 5 million barrels per day (MBD) so that our current quota of 2.4 MBD is far less than our capacity," he added.

Mr. Aghazadeh said that although Iran's production and export capacity was "far beyond" its OPEC quota, "we are sticking to this quota because of solidarity and unity in OPEC."

Iran wants a reduction of 3 MBD in OPEC production from the present official ceiling of 16 MBD, he said, adding that other proposed numbers discussed were "not small" but were "still not accepted by us."

He was speaking as OPEC ministers were considering proposals for cutting output to 15 MBD, 14 MBD or 13 MBD.

The Iranian minister disclosed that "within the next few months, Iran will increase its export facilities from 10 MBD to 13 MBD."

"We are setting up in many areas along the Gulf coast numerous facilities that I cannot reveal for strategic reasons," he added.

He declined to comment on Saudi Arabia's opposition to sharp cuts in OPEC production, and Riyadh's support for Iraq in the Gulf conflict.

"The problems go beyond our region," he said. "We believe that at the top, behind this conspiracy, there is the United States."

'Private Talks' Planned

LD221429 Vienna OPECNA in English 1305 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 22 Mar 86 (OPECNA) — OPEC oil ministers have adjourned their first session today and plan to have 'private consultations' this afternoon.

Conference President Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti is expected to meet member country delegations during the talks later today. It is understood that the 77th (extraodinary) OPEC conference meeting, which entered its seventh day today, will continue here Sunday [23 March] morning.

Non-OPEC Suppliers Cut Production

GF211840 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] A dialogue session, which included the ministerial committee commissioned by OPEC and the ministers of non-OPEC oil-producing countries, has ended its discussion of a number of important issues which require a rapprochment of views and approval by all the ministers. Following the session, the ministers did not give any new information on the results achieved during the meeting.

The Omani minister of petroleum and minerals, however, expressed confidence that matters are proceeding well and will take better shape in the evening session which will be held later today.

Five non-OPEC oil-producing countries have decided to reduce their general oil production by 20 percent. They are Egypt, Angola, Mexico, Malaysia, and Oman. It is known that these countries daily produce 4.5 million barrels of oil. This is equal to one-third of the overall production of the OPEC members.

Talks End With Proposal For Nonmembers

PA211710 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] With hopeful decisions within the parameters that OPEC established to achieve the stability of the oil market, the round of talks for today just ended.

Here is a telephone report from Geneva by our special reporter. Jenny Silva, go ahead:

[Begin live telephone relay in progress] ...concluded the meeting between the OPEC and non-OPEC countries that are trying to reach an agreement on production here in Geneva.

The meeting began after the full OPEC conference appointed a three-minister commission made up of Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, and Algeria to present to the five non-OPEC countries their proposal which they approved yesterday.

The meeting agreed that OPEC is willing to defend a reasonable level of prices with the indispensable prerequisite that the non-OPEC countries plus any others which may join them be willing to reduce their production by approximately 20 percent in order to reestablish a balance between supply and demand. Apparently there is a good disposition on the part of these nations to continue with this cut and to help in the stabilization of the market.

It was learned from OPEC sources that once the non-OPEC countries complete a reduction program within a very short term, the organization would establish a program of annual quotas which will finally depend on the production volume that these countries agree on.

These countries meeting here in Geneva and which are not OPEC members will immediately begin contacts with other producers and exporters to convince them, within a short period, to also help in this cause. These contacts include North Sea producers, the PRC, and the Soviet Union.

In the meantime, the OPEC ministers conference will continue in Geneva until they reach an internal agreement on their own production quotas but, in the meantime, permanent contact will continue with the non-OPEC countries which are involved in the efforts that were just mentioned.

In addition, a new meeting has been planned. It will be held either with the full conference members or with the commission of three ministers formed today in order to learn of the results of these contacts.

This afternoon, the full OPEC conference, headed by Venezuelan Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, will be informed of the agreements reached in the meeting that just ended.

To conclude, it can be said that the goal of the exporting countries present in Geneva is that once an agreement is reached to face the market crisis within a short term, progress be made in the formalization of a joint-action mechanism that allow them to stabilize the market within a medium and long term.

However, the creation of this agreement may last a few days, but there is the determination of the member countries, but not that of OPEC, to continue discussions until they find specific solutions. [end relay]

BAHRAIN

Fatah Central Committee Members Arrive in Manama

GF221942 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1925 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Doha [as received], 22 Mar (WAKH) — Salah Khalaf and Salim al-Za'nun, members of the Fatah Central Committee, arrived in Manama from Doha tonight on a visit to the state of Bahrain as part of their tour to a number of region countries.

During their visit the two Palestinian officials will brief Bahraini officials on recent developments on the Arab arena in general, and the Palestinian arena in particular.

They were received by Shaykh 'Abd al-Rahman ibn Faris Al Khalifah, director of financial and consular affairs at the Foreign Ministry; and Wafa Nibhan, director of the PLO office in Manama.

Received by Amir

GF231037 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0835 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Manama, 23 Mar (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, today received Salah Khalaf and Salim al-Za'nun, members of the Fatah Central Committee, who are visiting Manama.

The meeting was attended by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister; Shaykh 'abd al-Rahman ibn Faris Al Khalifah, director of administration finances and consular affairs at the Foreign Ministry; Wafa Nabhan, director of the PLO office in Bahrain; and Yasin al-Sharif, director of the PLO office in Doha.

In a statement to WAKH, Salah Khalaf described his meeting with the amir of Bahrain as positive and fruitful in view of his highness' well-known interest and support for the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people's rights.

He said that he reviewed with his highness the amir of Bahrain the latest developments of the Palestinian issue, matters connected with the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, and the talks which the Palestinian leadership had with His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan.

Salah Khalaf added that His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah asserted Bahrain's desire for continued fraternal relations between the PLO and Jordan. He said that he has informed his highness of the conditions of the Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories and the repressive measures that they face at the hands of the Israeli occupation authorities.

The Palestinian official said that he discussed with his highness the amir of Bahrain the developments of the Iraq-Iran war and its recent escalation. He affirmed the Palestinian people's willingness to defend any part of the Gulf countries which is subject to foreign aggression. Salah Khalaf renewed the PLO's call to end the destructive war between the two neighboring countries in view of the destruction that it causes and the threat that it poses to the security of the Gulf.

He added that the meeting also dealt with new developments on the Arab arena and the challenges that confront the Arab nation.

The Palestinian official praised Bahrain's constant stand in supporting the Palestinian cause, and the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Depart for Kuwait 23 March

GF231948 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Manama, 23 Mar (WAKH) — Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, and Salim al-Za'nun, members of the Fatah Central Committee, have left Manama for Kuwait after a 2-day visit to the State of Bahrain.

Foreign Minister Leaves for Tunis Meeting

GF231442 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1245 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Manama, 23 Mar (WAKH) — Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini minister of foreign affairs, left Manama for Tunis at noon today leading Bahrain's delegation to the Arab League's 85th session, due to begin in Tunis on Monday at the ministerial level.

BMA Official Denies Dinar Devaluation Rumors

GF230558 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 23 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] Persistent rumours of a devaluation of the Bahraini dinar against the U.S. dollar were again dismissed by the Bahrain Monetary Agency [BMA] yesterday.

A devaluation has been speculated on by the banking community for months but has been repeatedly denied by the BMA. Yesterday a BMA official dismissed the suggestions yet again, pointing out there was "no economic justification" for such a move.

U.S. Exercises Off Libya 'Inflame' Situation

GF230801 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0655 GMT 23 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Manama, 23 Mar (WAKH) — The Bahraini newspaper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* says that all the elements of confrontation, clashes, escalation, and intervention are now present in the Gulf of Sidra. The paper refers to the U.S. decision to proceed with its military maneuvers in the Mediterranean, and the large concentration of warships which the United States has stationed opposite the Libyan Gulf of Sidra.

The paper remarks that the situation may be inflamed at any moment now in the southern Mediterranean and the world will have to abandon all its worries and occupations in order to try to extinguish the new fire and prevent it — if possible — from giving off the spark that would start a third world war.

In conclusion, the paper says that the world will experience uneasiness during the next 10 days, which is the duration of the U.S. maneuvers opposite the Libyan shores, at a time when it needs to concentrate its efforts on extinguishing the existing fires in numerous other regions.

Daily on Attacks Against Israelis in Egypt

GF211154 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0820 GMT 21 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Manama, 21 Mar (WAKH) — Commenting on the armed operations against Israeli targets in Cairo, the Bahraini newspaper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* states in its editorial today: Evidence from this is clear and definite — the Egyptian people reject the Camp David accords clearly and unequivocally. Their rejection of any Israeli presence in Egypt is without doubt.

The newspaper notes that the armed attacks are not the only manifestation of this Egyptian rejection. The people's opposition to the Camp David accords has never ceased for a day. This opposition has taken various forms — protesting relations with Israel and demonstrations supporting the PLO and the Palestinian people's rights.

The newspaper affirms that the lesson which can be learned from the recent attack and other forms of rejection is that it is simply not true — as some say — that the Egyptian people support the Camp David accords and relations with Israel. Various proof has made it very clear that this talk is a mere illusion which has no basis of truth.

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister Calls for Summit on Arab Situation

LD231624 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1523 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 23 Mar (KUNA) — The deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, today called for the convening of an Arab summit at the earliest possible date to study the deteriorated state of the Arab world.

The call came in a statement made by Shaykh Sabah to pressmen before leaving for Tunis to attend the 85th session of the Arab League due to open in the Tunisian capital tomorrow.

Shaykh Sabah described the Arab world now as having: lost its respect before the world and been destroyed psychologically, militarily and economically. He said the current situation necessitated the convening of an Arab summit to discuss the situation and Arab countries' relations in confronting each other.

Regarding the postponed Arab summit, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that most Arab countries favored convening the summit. He said that the GCC foreign ministers will hold talks on the periphery of the session with other brothers on continuing efforts to convene the summit.

On whether there was a proposal calling for the implementaiton of the Arab joint defense agreement that would be submitted by GCC countries to the Arab League, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said this agreement should be implemented without any need for a proposal or request for it. However, Arab differences have not, regrettably, allowed this agreement to breath or see light. He said that GCC countries will make efforts during the session to mobilize energies so that the Arab League Charter and the Arab Joint Defense Pact would get their share of practical implementation.

On whether there were any positive results from the contacts made by him and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal regarding the normalization of relations between Iraq and Syria, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that concerning the Syrian position there was no new development. As for Algeria, he said that it was not a party to the issue, but it was playing a positive role in efforts to remove differences between the two countries.

Arab League To Be Asked To Implement Defense Pact

GF231430 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 22 Mar 86 p 1

['Amid al-Shanti report]

[Text] Gulf diplomatic sources have told *AL-QABAS* that the GCC countries will ask the Arab League to implement the joint defense strategy in case one of them is subjected to a foreign threat. The sources stated that the Arab foreign ministers meeting scheduled to be held on Monday [24 March] will be of great importance due to the circumstances the Arab world is passing through, particularly the developments of the Iraq-Iran war and its repercussions on the overall Arab situation and the outcome of the exchanges of the Arab seven-member committee with the countries concerned, including the permanent Security Council members concerning the war and the Security Council's recent resolution on it and an overall assessment of the issue.

The sources affirmed that new ideas would be presented at the meeting. They did not rule out that the visit by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' to Tehran was part of the current Arab contacts.

The Arab League meeting would also form a number of political, economic, and administrative committees to discuss all Arab developments, particularly the Iraq-Iran war, the Palestinian issue, and the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, and the activities and work of the Arab League and its cadres. The sources stated that there is a proposal to ask the Arab seven-member committee to continue its activities and exchanges with the countries of the world.

This week Kuwait is witnessing a number of intensified Arab contacts. King Husayn of Jordan is expected to arrive in Kuwait mid-week. Also Yasir 'Arafat, accompanied by Salah Khalaf, will arrive in Kuwait on Sunday or Monday [23 or 24 March] as part of his current tour of the Gulf region.

A responsible source has told *AL-QABAS* that intensified Arab contacts to discuss these developments are underway.

Arab League Delegation, Meeting Agenda Listed
LD221438 Kuwanit KUNA in English 1300 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 22 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad leaves here Sunday for Tunis to attend the Arab League's 85th ministerial session scheduled to convene Monday.

The Kuwaiti delegation includes director of Shaykh Sabah's office 'Abdallah Saud al-Abdalrazaq, head of the Arab affairs at the Foreign Ministry Khalid al-Jarrallah, and a number of foreign officials.

Official sources told KUNA that the Arab foreign ministers will discuss, during their three-day meetings the Iraq-Iran war, the efforts exerted by the Arab League seven-man follow-up committee including contacts with the different international and regional parties.

The ministers will also discuss amending the Arab League Charter and the proposals submitted on this issue.

The sources said the Arab ministers will discuss the current Arab situation in addition to means of solving inter-Arab differences and of strengthening Arab solidarity.

GCC Force Ready To Aid Any Gulf Country
GF211442 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 20 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by 'Abdallah al-Janafawi]

[Text] Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, Kuwaiti minister of state for Cabinet Affairs, has stated that the amir of Kuwait's visit to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz was that of one brother to another, and was made on the occasion of his majesty the Saudi king's presence in an area close to Kuwait. He said it is a great honor for the leaders to meet in an atmosphere of fraternity without need of protocol.

In a statement to *AL-QABAS* Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid denied rumors concerning the departure of a Kuwaiti delegation to Moscow to discuss the search for a solution to the Iraq-Iran war. He said: "We are always urging an end to the destructive war between the two Muslim and neighboring countries. We make efforts to this end in all our contacts and on all levels — on the level of the leadership and other levels — and with big and small countries. We urge an end to the war and cooperation to halt the attrition of lives and wealth. This is our declared and constant policy. We will continue this policy, looking for every gleam of hope to achieve this goal."

Responding to a question by *AL-QABAS* on the preparations of the Peninsula Shield Force, he said: "This force is prepared and these preparations were agreed upon during the meetings of the GCC foreign ministers last month in implementation of a previous GCC resolution which provides for the Peninsula Shield Force to be ready and prepared to assist any Gulf country."

OMAN

Minister Departs for Arab League Meetings
GF231358 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, left the country for Tunis today to head the Sultanate's delegation to the meetings of the 85th session of the Arab League Council.

The minister was seen off by a number of officials at the Foreign Ministry.

PDRY

Foreign Minister Departs for Tunis 21 March
GF211145 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Political Bureau and foreign minister, left Aden this morning for Tunis to attend the Arab League Council session which will convene on the Foreign Ministry level during 24-26 March. The session will discuss a number of current Arab issues.

He was seen off by Brother Muhammad 'Ali 'Imayah, deputy foreign minister, and a number of officials at the Foreign Ministry.

YSP Delegation Departs for CSSR Party Congress
GF211716 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The YSP will participate in the meetings of the 17th Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] which will convene in Prague in the next few days. The YSP delegation, which left Aden for Prague this evening, is led by Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee.

Prior to his departure, Brother Muhsin stated that during its participation in the meetings of the conference, the delegation will hold discussions with CPCZ leaders on cooperation between the YSP and CPCZ, and relations between the two friendly countries and ways to promote them. He added that the delegation will also hold contacts with the delegations of fraternal and friendly parties and liberation movements on cooperation between the YSP and these parties. He said that he will inform these fraternal and friendly delegations about the facts and the dimensions of the unsuccessful coup attempt carried out by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his adventurous clique, and its effects in all fields and current efforts to eliminate them.

Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin was seen off at Aden international airport by Brother Fadil Muhsin 'Abdallah, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, and a number of state and party officials.

MENA: Lebanese Paper Notes Differences Among Leaders

NC221457 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Beirut, 22 Mar (MENA) — The Lebanese paper *AL-NAHAR* reports today that there are differences within the PDRY's ruling Yemen Socialist Party Politburo. These differences have arisen as the result of demands for the execution of 125 state and party officials who had served during President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's regime. The paper adds that Abu al-Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council, and 'Ali Salim al-Bid led those who were opposed to the implementation of the execution sentences and who refused to sign the orders.

QATAR

Amir Receives Fatah Central Committee Members

GF221048 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] His Highness the Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani received in his office at the Al-Dawhah Palace at 1030 today Salah Khalaf and Salim al-Za'nun, members of the Fatah Central Committee. The audience was attended by Yasin al-Sharif, director of the PLO office in Doha. QNA has learned that the Palestinian delegation reviewed with his highness the amir the latest Palestinian developments on the Arab and international levels, the current Arab situation, and the developments of the Middle East crisis in general.

SAUDI ARABIA

Crown Prince Receives Iranian Majlis Member

GF231254 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Riyadh, 23 Mar (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and chief of the National Guard, received in his office at the royal court today Dr Mohammad 'Ali Hadi, deputy chief of the Defense Committee of the Iranian Majlis. The meeting was attended by Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, minister of state; and Mohammad Hoseyn Tarimi, Iranian charge d'affaires to the Kingdom.

Comoros Foreign Minister Ends Visit to Kingdom

LD232338 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2255 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 23 Mar (SPA) — Said Madi Kafe, Comoros' Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, left Jeddah this evening following a 3-day visit to the Kingdom.

UAE

Minister of State Departs for Tunis Meeting

GF241212 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1005 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Mar (WAKH) — Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, left Abu Dhabi today for Tunis leading his country's delegation to the Arab League's 85th session scheduled to open in the Tunisian capital today.

Paper on U.S. Intentions To 'Provoke' Libya

GF240844 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0620 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 24 Mar (WAM) — Under the headline "Will History Repeat Itself," the UAE newspaper *AL-WAHDAH* says that despite the denial made by the White House on U.S. intentions to provoke [Libya], "the events prove the opposite. They confirm that the United States is serious in provoking Libya in order to justify its imminent aggression against Libyan territories under the pretext of the latter's support for terrorism, as the United States claims." The paper charges the United States with "wanting to drive the area into a new maze." The paper calls on the United States to realize that the entire Arab homeland will be assigned the duty of defending every inch of Arab territory and that "despite the painful conditions which the Arab homeland is passing through, the will of the Arabs will neither die nor be vanquished. Moreover, this plan which is designed to weaken and kill this Arab will will not pass."

The paper continues: "The Arabs aspire for peace, but they do not accept affronts. What the United States is doing opposite the Libyan coasts is a challenge to all Arabs and flagrant ignorance of all international laws." The paper expresses its belief that the U.S. decision to hold maneuvers in this region demonstrates "its hostile intentions toward this Arab country that refuses to let its dignity be affronted and that is not frightened by U.S. threats and fleets." In conclusion, the paper says editorially that "Libya will not stand idly by and knows how to defend itself." The paper recalls what happened last century when the U.S. fleet wrecked off the Libyan coast. The paper asks: "Will history repeat itself?"

U.S., Israel To Sign Military Equipment Storage Plan

GF230630 Doha QNA in Arabic 0615 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 Mar (QNA) — Press reports published in Abu Dhabi today indicate that the United States and Israel will soon sign the implementation plan of the strategic agreement which authorizes the U.S. Army to store ammunition and military equipment in Israel to be used as emergency stores in the region. The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* quotes sources in Washington, which it describes as informed, as saying that "the purpose is to allow the United States to use this equipment in the event a war breaks out in the Middle East in which the United States is a party." The sources have said that Israel will be able to use these stores in case of emergency after receiving Washington's permission.

Further on Cairo Shooting of Israeli Fair Workers

19 Suspects Arrested

NC220820 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Egyptian authorities in Cairo have arrested 19 people suspected of involvement in the attack against four Israelis last Wednesday. Those arrested include two Lebanese, one Syrian, and one person from South Yemen.

2 Arrested at Cairo Airport

NC221103 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The Egyptian paper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* reports today that two people have been arrested at Cairo Airport. Their description corresponds with that of the perpetrators of last Wednesday's attack, which left one Israeli dead and three others wounded. *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* has also published composite drawings of the criminals. Pictures of two of the accused indicate that they are the same people who assassinated Albert Atrakchi, the Israeli charge d'affairs in Cairo, in a similar attack in August 1985. A Nasirite organization calling itself the Egyptian Revolution claimed responsibility for both attacks.

Suspects Questioned

NC230918 Cairo MENA in English 0858 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — Prominence was given by the papers today to reports on the questioning by investigators of a large number of suspects who might have been involved in the attack on the four Israelis at Cairo International Fair. The suspects were arrested at Cairo airport, the port of Alexandria, port of Suez and Port Said, as well as Luxor.

Police Have 'No Firm Leads'

NC231009 Paris AFP in English 1001 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 23 (AFP) — Egyptian police have no firm leads in their efforts to track down a gang who carried out an anti-Israeli attack at the Cairo Trade Fair on Wednesday in which one person died, sources close to the investigation said Sunday.

Several hundred witnesses have been interviewed by police following the attack. A woman died and three other people were wounded when the gunmen opened fire on their car as they drove away from the fair. The sources said that there were several theories, including involvement of Palestinian hardliner Abu Nidal's group, but no firm leads. The attack was claimed by a group called Egypt's Revolution, which is violently opposed to the peace accord between Egypt and Israel.

Egyptian police believe this could be a cover for foreign extremist groups. Egypt's Revolution has claimed other attacks on Israelis, including the murder of an Israeli diplomat in Cairo last August.

Commentary Criticizes Attack

NC211640 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Usamah 'Abd al-Ghani commentary: "The Peace Efforts Will Not Stop and the Culprits Will Not Escape Punishment"]

[Text] Egypt has denounced the incident in which a female worker at the Israeli pavilion in the Cairo International Fair was killed and three other employees were wounded on Wednesday near the fairgrounds. The authorities have declared that they will do all they can to pursue the culprits and to begin legal proceedings against them, commensurate with their illegal act.

A previously unknown organization, called Egypt's Revolution, has claimed responsibility for the criminal incident, despite its repulsive nature. However, in our opinion, this claim is an attempt to conceal the organization's true identity and purpose. Egypt denounces the savagery of this crime, characterized by treachery and despicableness, which is not in the nature of the Egyptian people, who respect the security of peaceful civilians. No individual, or organization in Egypt defends such crimes, which cannot exist in a free and democratic society that calls for peace all over the world, not only in this area.

Yesterday's meeting in Cairo between President Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan, was a step on the way to the comprehensive peace that Egypt pursues. Yasir 'Arafat's forthcoming visit to Egypt represents another step on the same road. At a meeting 1 or 2 days ago, President Mubarak and PRC President Li Xiannian affirmed their determination to work to strengthen world peace, prevent wars, and strengthen justice in international relations.

Although there have been past attacks similar to the one against workers at the Israeli pavilion at the Cairo International Fair and although such incidents could take place at any time and in any place since terrorism has become an international epidemic, this incident had a wicked purpose. Despite the progress in Egypt and Israel's efforts to establish a model for what could be achieved through dialogue and persistence to establish peace, there is still sensitivity because of differences of opinion on issues pertaining to these efforts to establish peace and to end the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Whoever seeks to harm Egyptian-Israeli relations with such incidents actually futilely seeks to harm the peace efforts. Egypt has offered many martyrs for the sake of peace. People lost their lives as a result of terrorist operations by those who are against Egypt's means of establishing comprehensive peace in the area. Egypt realizes that it is following a difficult course in combining what are considered to be contradictions. On the basis of its cultural role and its view of the future, Egypt is adhering to both its international commitments on peace and also its pan-Arab commitments as a necessary basis for the achievement of this comprehensive peace.

Despite the difficulties that Egypt's leaders and people are shouldering in pursuing this course, no terrorist incident will make them turn away from the goal it has willingly adopted of establishing peace and justice. Egypt is eager to establish peace, security, and stability in the region and the world. The country wants to ensure that no incident contradicting these objectives should take place in its territory. Egypt is determined to pursue the criminals who are afraid of the establishment of peace and are trying to undermine it and who sought to impose on the Egyptian people a state of affairs that is inconsistent with their democracy, legality, and freedom. The culprits will not escape punishment.

Israeli Minister Target

NC231922 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The Egyptian newspaper *AL-MASA'* reports today that the gunmen who killed the Israeli Embassy employee in Cairo on Wednesday planned to assassinate the Israeli tourism minister. The paper adds that preliminary investigations have revealed that the Israeli minister visited his country's pavilion at the Cairo International Fair on the day of the shooting.

King Husayn Contacts Mubarak To Exchange Views

NC212130 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan contacted President Husni Mubarak this evening to exchange views on a number of issues.

Further on 'Arafat Visit; Talks With Mubarak, Others

'Arafat Arrives in Cairo

NC221758 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 22 Mar (MENA) — PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Cairo from Khartoum tonight. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, met him at the airport.

In a statement upon his arrival, 'Arafat said: We are passing through an important and crucial period concerning the issues we are confronting and the challenges we are facing on the local, Arab, and international levels. This requires the Arab nation to face up to these challenges as one man, with a common stand.

He added: There are many basic issues that will be discussed with President Husni Mubarak and Egyptian officials, including Egypt's efforts in support of the Palestinian struggle, the current Arab conditions, the Gulf war and the grave dangers resulting from its escalation, in addition to international topics.

Asked about the meaning of his recent statement that the situation has reached a dead end, 'Arafat replied that he meant this regarding the United States, in light of "U.S. intransigence, the U.S. attempt to deny the Palestinian people their rights, including their right to self-determination, and the unlimited U.S. support for the Israeli arrogance and occupation."

'Arafat noted that there are differences between the Palestinian and U.S. viewpoints, observing that Jordan mediated — for which it is be thanked — between the Palestinians and the U.S. 'Arafat asserted that during his stay in Cairo he will meet with Marrack Goulding, the UN under secretary general, for talks on the Palestinian issue.

Concluding, 'Arafat explained that he recently made a long tour to discuss the issues facing the Arab nation. This tour took him to Turkey, Morocco, Romania, Yugoslavia, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Iraq.

UN's Goulding Arrives

NC222209 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1740 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 22 Mar (MENA) — Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary general for political affairs, arrived in Cairo from Beirut tonight on board a private plane. Goulding currently is on a Middle East tour, which, so far, has taken him to Israel, Lebanon, and Egypt, where he discussed the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate for another 6 months, in addition to the latest regional developments. On Tuesday, Goulding met with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

'Arafat Meets With Goulding

NC222218 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpt] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat met with UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding this evening. Zuhdi al-Tarzi, PLO representative at the United Nations, attended the meeting. Goulding arrived in Cairo from Beirut this evening.

Mubarak Receives 'Arafat

NC230939 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0934 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the Republican Palace in Al-Qubbah this morning. Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Cairo last night.

Others Join Mubarak-'Arafat Talks

NC231159 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1132 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — The Palestinian delegation accompanying PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has joined the private talks being held by President Husni Mubarak and 'Arafat. The two men met for 90 minutes.

Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and head of the President's Office for Political Affairs, attended the talks on the Egyptian side. Representing the Palestinians were Juwayd al-Ghusayn and Jamal al-Surani, Executive Committee members; Hani al-Hasan, Fatah's Central Committee member; Al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim, PLO representative in Cairo; and Sa'id Kamal and Zuhdi al-Qadrah, PNC members.

'Arafat Questioned After Meeting

NC231443 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1348 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — Following 3 hours of talks with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said that they had discussed all aspects of the Palestinian issue, as well as the general Arab situation and the stand of his organization vis-a-vis Jordan. 'Arafat stated: I thanked President Mubarak for the efforts he has exerted in this regard.

Responding to a question, 'Arafat denied the existence of any deadlock between the PLO and Jordan. Asked about the Jordanian monarch's statement that asserted that a deadend had been reached, 'Arafat replied: I agree with King Husayn's affirmation that we have reached a deadend. This is due to U.S. obstinacy.

Replying to a question on whether the PLO can pursue the peace process on its own, 'Arafat said: No. He then asked: Who said that we can continue on our own? All we are saying is that agreements exist between us and Jordan to which we are both committed.

Asked about the formulas that he had previously proposed for peace, the Palestinian leader replied: We submitted three such formulas. Richard Murphy, assistant U.S. secretary of state for Middle East affairs, has stated that he did not receive these formula; however, I am certain that he has. The U.S. Administration must give us an official reply to these formulas. 'Arafat added that he is still waiting for this U.S. reply.

Responding to a question about the peace process and whether or not it has been suspended pending the receipt of this U.S. reply, 'Arafat reiterated that he is waiting for the United States to reply to his three formulas.

Asked about the future scenario of the peace process, 'Arafat replied: This is not simple. We have our own principles by which we abide. However, any future scenario should take place through the United Nations.

Asked to explain the meaning of his recent statement with regard to the PLO's readiness to effect rapproachment with Syria, 'Arafat said: I would like to establish the fact that meetings have taken place between Palestinian and Syrian officials.

In answer to a final question on whether there is hope for a restoration of relations between the PLO and Syria, 'Arafat stated: Such meetings should be followed up. The Palestinian leadership has decided to turn a new leaf with Syria.

'Arafat Meets With Al-Sharif

NC232050 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Minister of Information Safwat al-Sharif met this evening with a PLO delegation led by Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The session also was attended by Husayn 'Anan, chairman of the radio and television federation, and by other senior media officials. Al-Sharif opened the meeting by welcoming the members of the PLO delegation. He said that Egyptian media have always expressed the Egyptian people's support of the Palestinians in their just cause, and of the PLO as their legitimate representative.

'Arafat thanked the minister of information for the Egyptian media's position toward the Palestinian people. Talks then began. 'Arafat discussed the Palestinian stand, reviewing the current situation and explaining the PLO's strategy in light of the changes affecting the Palestinian issue. He praised Egypt's backing of the PLO, and stressed the importance of Egypt's contribution to Arab action, with particular emphasis on the promotion of the Palestinian issue. All other regional questions were discussed as well.

AL-JUMHURIYAH on Talks

NC210800 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — Cairo *AL-JUMHURIYAH* declares that a resumption of the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue with Egyptian participation represents the only way to reach a unified stand enabling the PLO participate in the peace process. The paper notes that there can be no peace without the Palestinians.

In its editorial today, the paper comments on Jordanian King Husayn's visit to Egypt yesterday and his talks with President Mubarak, saying that the visit emphasizes the significance of the pan-Arab dimension of Egypt's policy. Despite the difficulties it has been encountering, Egypt will neither shirk its pan-Arab responsibilities nor relinquish its role in the Arab arena.

The paper goes on to say that the Egyptian role is a leading one, particularly in the context of ongoing efforts to dissipate the clouds enveloping Palestinian-Jordanian relations. *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says that Egypt's role is to bridge the gap between the viewpoints of the two sides, taking into account each party's motives and stands.

In conclusion, the paper asserts that the current circumstances give rise to a considerable degree of optimism and hope that the crisis may be overcome. This conclusion may be drawn from King Husayn's assertions to the effect that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and that he is not seeking to exclude it. It also derives from the PLO's recent statement in which it asserted that the door of dialogue with Jordan has not been closed.

Mubarak Receives Soviet Parliamentary Delegation

NC240813 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0738 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — This morning at Al-Tahirah Palace, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received the Soviet delegation led by Pavel Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and Chairman of the Georgian Republic Supreme Soviet.

Attending the meeting were People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, Dr Usamah al-Baz, first undersecretary at the

Foreign Ministry and head of the President's Office for Political Affairs; Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah, chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee; and Aleksandr Belonogov, the Soviet ambassador in Cairo.

Mubarak Receives Message

NC240929 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0845 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak today received a written message from the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. This was stated by People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub following President Mubarak's meeting with members of the Soviet parliamentary delegation. He said that the delegation had conveyed the greetings of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and President Andrey Gromyko to President Mubarak and the Egyptian people. The delegation's leader had stressed the Soviet Union's enthusiasm for friendship between the two countries. He added that President Husni Mubarak had emphasized his desire to maintain this friendship and strengthen bilateral relations in all fields.

Dr al-Mahub said that an Egyptian economic delegation led by Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali, minister of economy and foreign trade, will leave for Moscow tomorrow to discuss economic relations between the two countries.

The head of the Soviet delegation also expressed his gratitude and said that he and the delegation were very pleased to have met with President Mubarak. He described the meeting as the best one held by the delegation during its stay in Cairo. In a statement after the meeting, he said that the delegation and President Mubarak had discussed various kinds of Soviet-Egyptian cooperation. He stated: We are looking toward new horizons of bilateral cooperation. He added that the delegation had been well received during its visit to Egypt and declared: We thank the Egyptian people and wish them all happiness, well-being, and prosperity.

Concluding his statement, he stressed that the delegation will leave Egypt with very favorable impressions. It will convey the greetings of the Egyptian people to the Soviet people.

The Soviet delegation is scheduled to leave Cairo tomorrow, Tuesday, at the end of its visit to Egypt. During the visit the delegation met with Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi; Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and food security.

Gilashvili Talks To Press

NC231836 Cairo MENA in English 1824 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 23 (MENA) — The deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, who is leading a parliamentary delegation, described today his visit to Cairo as successful and said there will be an exchange of senior officials visits between the two countries shortly. Speaking at a press conference today, the Soviet official said the Soviet side will hold talks tomorrow with Minister of Energy and Electricity Mahir Abazah on the Soviet Union's sharing in energy projects in Egypt.

He voiced his country's support for the Palestinian cause and its full backing of the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He also said that the best way to settle the Middle East dispute will be through collective efforts exerted within an international conference. He affirmed that his country is ready to participate with the United States, Security Council members, and a full Palestinain representation to find a settlement to the Middle East problem.

Mubarak Receives West German Journalist Delegation

NC231108 Cairo MENA in English 1015 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak met for 90 minutes here today with a West German press delegation representing 25 daily and weekly newspapers in the Federal Republic of Germany. The president spoke to the delegation on Egypt's internal policy and its efforts for implementing economic development programs. He also expounded Egypt's foreign policy and its endeavours to realise permanent peace and secure stability for the peoples of the area.

The meeting was attended by Safwat al-Sharif, information minister, and Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the President's Office for Political Affairs and first undersecretary at the Foreign Ministry.

Omani Foreign Affairs Official Arrives for Visit

NC231907 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1844 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 23 mar (MENA) — Yusuf al-'Alwai, Oman's minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Cairo from Muscat tonight for a 1-day visit. In a statement, Al-'Alwawi said he would be meeting with President Husni Mubarak tomorrow to convey a verbal message from Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id, the sultan of Oman. He also noted that he would hold talks and consultations with Egyptian officials to exchange views on questions of interest to both countries and to the Arab nation.

Received by Mubarak

NC240828 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0815 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Yusuf al-'Alawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, at Al-Tahirah Palace today. The meeting was attended by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Omani ambassador in Cairo 'Abdallah al-Najjar. Al-'Alawi arrived in Cairo yesterday with a message for President Mubarak from Oman's Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id.

Mubarak Receives Message

NC241012 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0940 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has received a verbal message from Oman's Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id concerning current developments in the Arab region, and the Gulf area in particular. This was stated by Yusuf al-'Alawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, following his meeting with President Mubarak today. He said that President Mubarak had asked him to convey a verbal message expressing Egypt's views on the various developments.

Al-'Alawi added: We believe that Egypt has an effective and major role to play in the current situation. Hence, we would like to know to what extent it can take action in connection with the current problems, particularly in the Gulf region.

Replying to a question on whether Middle East peace efforts had been discussed, the Omani minister said that the talks had indeed dealt with the peace efforts. He noted that Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat is in Cairo and that new efforts are in progress. He added that these efforts might reopen the way.

'Abd al-Majid on Terrorism, Relations With Libya

NC221523 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 22 Mar (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has reiterated that the objectives of Egyptian foreign policy are stability, a just comprehensive peace in the Middle East, and overall development in Egypt. Dr 'Abd al-Majid stressed the importance of the EC's role in contributing to a just, comprehensive peace in the area.

Today during his meeting with a delegation of visiting FRG journalists, Dr 'Abd al-Majid explained Egypt's efforts to give momentum to the peace process in the area. He pointed out that Egypt is the only country in the region whose political policy enables it to communicate with all concerned parties within and outside of the area.

Continuing, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister noted Egypt's role in reconciling Jordan and the Palestinians and in patching up their differences. He asserted that Egypt's efforts are motivated by the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, which constitutes the cornerstone of a peaceful settlement in the Middle East. Dr 'Abd al-Majid added: We expect that Yasir 'Arafat will visit Egypt soon to continue his contacts on this.

Touching on international terrorism, Dr 'Abd al-Majid expressed Egypt's denunciation and condemnation of all acts of terrorism, regardless of who is behind these acts, for they endanger the lives of civilians and innocent people. He noted that Egypt is quite prepared to cooperate with the international community to combat the wave of terrorism that menaces the security and peace of all countries.

During his meeting with the FRG journalists, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister affirmed that a just, lasting, and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian problem would greatly contribute to wiping out the roots of terrorism in the area. On the Iraq-Iran war, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt will not accept any infringment upon Iraq's sovereignty or that of the Gulf states.

Responding to a question on the relations between Egypt and Libya, Dr 'Abd al-Majid replied: We have no problems with the Libyan people. In fact, we have strong relations with them. But we do not approve of Al-Qadhdhafi's policy and of his interference in the domestic affairs of various countries.

Foreign Ministry Official Views Tabah Talks

NC221401 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1305 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 22 Mar (MENA) — A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry has stated that Egypt believes that it is necessary to expedite an agreement on all points related to the arbitral compromise in order to find a solution to the Tabah issue. The source hoped that an agreement on all the disputed topics would be reached during the coming round of talks to be held in Herzliyya on Wednesday. Once such an agreement is reached, then only the general formulation of the compromise would be left unresolved. This formulation, he added, should not take more than a single round of talks.

According to this source, the disputed issues pertain to the question to be addressed before the arbitrators, the proceedings of the actual arbitration, and the implementation of the arbitrators' verdict. He noted that there are differences between Egypt and Israel with regard to all of these points. He also affirmed that Egypt adheres to its positions on these points completely. Counselor Amin al-Mahdi, deputy chief of the Council of State, is scheduled to take part in the forthcoming round of talks.

Badr Discusses Central Security Forces, Prisoners

NC231148 Cairo MENA in English 1135 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — Only a handful of prisoners fled from Turah jail during the recent riots, Interior Minister Major General Zaki Badr affirmed. This was stated at a meeting of the ruling NDP last night.

The runaway prisoners included two Britons who arrived in London. Contacts are underway on their extradition to the Egyptian authorities, the minister added. He denied rumours that among the prisoners were some politicians.

He pointed out that the Central Security Forces resumed their guarding tasks in Egypt. The minister affirmed that the authorities deal with the opposition within the context of democracy, which provides for freedom of expression.

Foreign Minister al-Majid To Visit SFRY, Italy

NC231931 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, will deliver a message from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to Yugoslav President Radovan Vlajkovic on Wednesday. Upon arrival in Belgrade, 'Abd al-Majid will hold talks with Yugoslav Government officials on the Nonaligned Movement and ways of promoting it. His discussions will be in preparation for the meeting of foreign ministers from the nonaligned states, which will take place in New Delhi on 16 April. This conference will be followed by September's nonaligned summit in Zimbabwe.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid met today with the Yugoslav ambassador in Cairo for a review of bilateral relations and methods of advancing them in various fields. After visiting Yugoslavia, the foreign minister will go to Italy for talks with the Italian prime minister and foreign minister. They will examine bilateral ties, developments in the Middle East, and the role that Europe and the nonaligned states can play in giving an impetus to the regional peace process.

Finance Minister Hamid Leaves for Jordan

NC210807 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0720 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — Finance Minister Dr Salah Hamid, accompanied by Dr 'Irfan Shafi'i, first under secretary of the ministry of planning and international cooperation, left Cairo for Amman this morning on a 4-day visit to Jordan. The Egyptian minister will hold talks with senior Jordanian officials on strengthening bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

PRC 'Willingness' To Meet Military Needs

GF221354 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 21 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] Cairo — *AL-BAYAN* has learned that the talks between Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and the PRC president in the past 2 days dealt with the PRC's supplying Egypt with some of its military requirements and assisting in the manufacture of some types of heavy artillery, missiles, and spare parts for weapons and planes. *AL-BAYAN* has learned from reliable sources that the PRC has shown understanding and a great willingness to supply all of Egypt's military requirements.

Commander of French Naval Forces Ends Visit

NC211828 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — Admiral Yves Leonardth, commander of the French Naval forces, and the delegation accompanying him left Cairo this afternoon for Marseilles, following a 5-day visit to Egypt. During his stay, Admiral Leonardth met with Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; Lieutenant General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, chief of staff of the Armed Forces; and Vice-Admiral 'Ali Jad, commander of the Egyptian naval forces. They discussed cooperation between the two countries, as well as bilateral relations.

Opposition Party Leaders Form Committee

NC231448 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1340 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — The leaders of the Socialist Liberal Party, the National Progressive Unionist Grouping, the Socialist Labor Party, and the Ummah and New Wafd parties met today at Al-Ummah Party headquarters. Those taking part decided to form a committee of their representatives, who will prepare a draft plan for the amendment of the laws on political rights and local council elections, and the alteration of the local government system.

This body is scheduled to hold its first meeting at new Wafd headqaurters on Saturday. The ad hoc committee is expected to present a progress report at another gathering of party leaders, which will take place next month at the headquarters of the Socialist Liberal Party.

Turkish Prime Minister Ozal Arrives in Baghdad

JN211701 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1650 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Mar (INA) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal arrived in Baghdad this evening on a visit to Iraq that will last several days. He was received by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; several ministers, and the Turkish ambassador in Baghdad.

In a statement to INA, the Turkish prime minister said his visit to Iraq is aimed at consolidating and promoting bilateral relations, particularly in the economic and trade spheres, and at discussing the Iraq-Iran war developments.

The prime minister's delegation comprises Finance and Customs Minister Ahmet Alptemocin, the Finance and Foreign Ministry under secretaries, and the governor of the Turkish Central Bank.

Official Talks Begin 22 March

JN221637 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA) — Official talks between Iraq and Turkey began here this evening. Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and frist deputy prime minister, chaired the Iraqi side while Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal chaired the Turkish side.

The talks dealt with bilateral economic, trade, and technical relations and ways of promoting them, as well as Iraq- Iran war developments.

The talks were attended by Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi, oil minister and head of the Iraqi delegation to the Iraqi-Turkish joint committee; and Ahmet Alptemocin, Turkish finance and customs minister.

At the end of the round of talks Taha Yasin Ramadan and Turgut Ozal held a closed meeting during which they discussed economic and trade relations and ways of promoting them in serving the two countries' mutual interests.

Received by Saddam Husayn

JN221215 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1144 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA) — President Saddam Husayn met with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal today. They discussed the bilateral strong ties and the prospects for promoting them in all fields. They also touched on the Iraq-Iran war and its threat to peace and stability in the region.

The meeting was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Ahmet Alptemocin, Turkish finance and customs minister; the president's secretary; the Iraqi ambassador in Ankara; and the Turkish ambassador in Baghdad.

Received by Ramadan

JN221545 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, met here at noon today with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal. The two sides reviewed bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction with their continued development as well as their desire to seek new fields for expanding trade and promoting economic cooperation in serving their mutual interests. They also discussed ways of promoting relations in the trade and economic spheres now and in the future.

On the Iraqi side the meeting was attended by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi, oil minister and head of the Iraqi delegation to the Iraqi- Turkish joint committee. On the Turkish side the meeting was attended by Ahmet Alptemocin, finance and customs minister and head of the Turkish delegation to the joint committee, the Turkish Central Bank governor, the prime minister's adviser, and the Turkish ambassador in Baghdad.

Further Talks With Ramadan

JN231827 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, met with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal here today. They discussed bilateral economic and trade relations and reviewed ways of developing these relations to serve their joint interests. The meeting was attended by Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi, Turkish Finance and Customs Minister Ahmet Alptemocin, the Iraqi ambassador in Ankara, and the Turkish ambassador in Baghdad.

Gives Interview to Paper

JN240852 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0815 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Mar (INA) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal has held Iran responsible for the prolongation of the war in view of the impossible conditions it sets for ending it. He said that Iran's conditions obstruct any role for the attainment of a satisfactory peaceful solution to the war. In an interview with *AL-JUMHURIYAH* here today Ozal added that Turkey sincerely wishes a peaceful solution to the war that will satisfy the two parties in this war which is exhausting the two warring countries' humane and economic potentialities.

Turgut Ozal said that his country does not export military hardware to Iran, stressing that what is being sent consists of spare parts of electronic equipment which are being sent by air. He also stressed that military hardware sent to Iran is being received through its southern coasts.

Speaking about Iraqi-Turkish relations, Turgut Ozal said that the second oil pipeline will be completed next year and that his current visit to Baghdad is an expression of the good neighborliness and cooperation that exist between the two countries. He added that trade exchange in 1985 amounted to $2,000 million.

Reaction to UN Security Council 21 March Statement

Tariq 'Aziz Sends Memorandum

JN231613 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has sent the following memorandum to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar:

Your Excellency, after the Iraqi Government has taken cognizance of the statement issued by the UN Security Council on 21 March 1986, I am honored to remind you of the letter sent by Iraq's permanent UN representative in New York on 17 March 1986 in which he urged the Security Council to be fully aware of the sensitivity of the situation, which requires that no unbalanced measure be taken aborting the opportunity of allowing the responsible international peace campaign to succeed and permitting the Iranian regime to legitimize its selective [intiqa'i] method with the aim of continuing the war.

The Iraqi Government regrets to say that the Security Council's statement obviously lacks the required balance. The most obvious point in this regard is that the statement completely fails to refer to the UN Charter, which constitutes the current world constitution for international relations. This greatly weakens the effect of the rest of the statement's provisions, which stress a peaceful settlement of the dispute, especially since the council did not clearly name the side which insists on continuing the war, as though this side is not known to the council. Furthermore, there is a clear difference between the stands of both sides on Resolution 582 of 1986, something which again expresses the council's hesitation in naming the side which rejected the above resolution, namely, Iran.

The lack of balance in the statement is shown by the fact that the council did not sincerely express the realities of the situation when it called on both sides to respect the territorial integrity of all states while expressing concern over threats to expand the conflict to include other states in the region. This call should have been directed at the side which is threatening other states, the same side which insists on continuing the war, which rejects UN Security Council authority, and which refuses to implement Resolution 582 of 1986.

It is the Iranian regime which does not respect the sovereignty of the region's states and which brazenly continues its threats against these states and its interference in their internal affairs. The council's failure to recognize this fact, which is obvious to everyone, cannot be justified, especially since the council and the General Secretariat are fully aware of this. We also are aware that international public opinion cannot ignore this fact, given the following passage from the statement issued by the GCC ministers' 18th session held in Riyadh on 1-2 March 1986:

The GCC states have always adhered to ties of good neighborliness based on mutual respect and noninterference in internal affairs. However, the Iranian threats have created an atmosphere of tension. Therefore, the GCC calls on Iran to desist from its threats which contribute toward undermining the security and peace of the region.

The Security Council's statement ignores in an intolerable manner the Iranian invasion of Iraqi territory and the Iranian forces' repeated offensives with the aim of threatening the Iraqi people and ending their freedom and independence. The council completely ignores the backward, blindly fanatic, and barbaric methods which the Iranian regime is using in its destructive, expansionist war against a country which is one-third the size of Iran in both territory and population.

There are some other facts which we cannot ignore, namely, that certain international sides shedding crocodile tears over international agreements are themselves supplying the barbarous Iranian regime with the means of evil and aggression — weapons, ammunition, spare parts, and military hardware — some of them are UN Security Council members. The time will come when we will reveal their names. Their despicable cooperation with the Iranian regime means complicity with it in threatening peace and security in the region in exchange for material gain, something which contradicts their responsiblity of preserving international peace and security in accordance with membership on the Security Council.

The Iraqi Government is fully aware that some sides which were urged to issue the aforementioned statement on the pretext of respecting the 1925 Geneva Protocol act in accordance with motives which have nothing to do with the facts of the Iraq-Iran conflict. The Iraqi Government does not want to get into details about the several discrepancies in the report of the UN secretary general's mission, Document No 17922-S, regarding the mission's performance of its task, its violations of the limits of its task, or the UN Security Council's violation of limits of objectivity regarding this subject so that Iraq will not be dragged into the Iranian regime's plan to discuss parts of the conflict.

Iraq, whose contribution to human civilization and values is well known, will never allow a barbaric force to invade its homeland and deprive it of its sovereignty and freedom. Iraq is also determined to crush the barbaric invaders. It will never forget Hulagu [Mongol invader] who destroyed its great capital, Baghdad, killed its people, and burned its libraries and universities. Khomeyni, representing fanatic ideas and bloodthirstiness and killing and destruction, is another Hulagu.

Morover, among the basic points which we cannot ignore is the timing of the UN Security Council's statement. It seems that while the Iraqi forces are achieving decisive successes over the barbaric aggressors and invaders, the objective of this statement is to encourage these barbarians to continue their aggression and threats against security and stability in the region. Once again, we strongly warn against unjustified attempts, which are dishonest, to focus on sub-issues stemming from the conflict at a time when the UN Security Council and the United Nations should exert all efforts to stop the aggression and to force the aggressor to accept peace and to abide by the UN Charter, which is the highest document mankind has agreed on in the contemporary age.

Finally, I should remind you that I have announced before the UN Security Council on 18 February 1986 that Iraq will not accept any efforts not dealing clearly with ending the war and that it will not contribute to these efforts or assume any responsibility toward them. In this regard and in order to make the stand clear in the future regarding the way which the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly assume their responsibilities in accordance with the UN Charter, I should draw your attention to the fact that what was included in the last paragraph of the UN Security Council statement, on how the two sides showed readiness to cooperate with the UN secretary general, was not very accurate because Iran, which insists on the war, has shown only conditional readiness represented by cooperation with the UN secretary general in very limited areas —the same areas enabling it to continue its war and aggression as mentioned clearly in its foreign minister's statement, Document No 17864-S.

Iraq's stand is contrary to this. It has shown complete readiness to cooperate with the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly to implement all, we stress all, international laws and conventiions, foremost being the UN Charter, for the sake of a just and honorable peace, which is the lofty objective of all mankind.

[Signed] Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, 23 March 1986

Diplomat Criticizes Statement

JN220922 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The UN Security Council yesterday issued a statement condemning Iraq for using internationally banned chemical weapons and denouncing the continuation of the war between Iraq and Iran. An Iraqi diplomat criticized the statement because it did not clearly hold Iran responsible for the continuation of the war and did not refer to Iranian threats to expand the war in the Gulf region. The Iraqi diplomat reaffirmed that the Iraqi forces will not hesistate to employ all means to confront Iranian aggression.

Tehran has not yet commented on the Security Council's statement.

Official circles at the United Nations fear that Iran will also resort to using such chemical weapons.

Tariq 'Aziz Sends Message to Arab League's Klibi

JN231545 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz has sent the following memorandum to Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi:

The Arab League secretary general, Tunis. At a time when Arab public opinion is showing great interest in the Arab League Council's forthcoming meeting in Tunis on 24 March and as it expects the meeting to take certain positions and measures to confront the dangerous threats to which the Arab homeland is being exposed, particularly the Iranian aggression against Iraq —an aggression which has been continuing for 6 years and which is represented by the occupation of new Iraqi national territories, a fact requiring Arab countries to face up to their responsibilities to implement their pan-Arab obligations stipulated in conventions and charters, especially in the Arab League Charter and the Collective Arab Defense Pact —we were surprised by the Syrian foreign minister's message to you, a message full of exposed, cheap lies and allegations and whose aims and purposes are exposed.

The timing of the message exposes its main objective, namely, the attempt to distract the Arab League's attention from its responsibilities and basic duties and to cover up for the Syrian Government's shameful stand on the Iranian aggression against Iraq, as well as its shameful alliance with the aggression against Iraq, and its shameful alliance with the aggressor against a fraternal Arab country and a member of the Arab League. This is confirmed by the Syrian foreign minister's visit to Tehran several days after sending his message. This means that this message was no more than an entry visa to Tehran.

The visit by an Arab foreign minister to a foreign country which is continuing to launch aggression against an Arab country, which is a member of the Arab League, and his statements on the close relations with that aggressor country are considered a provocation of national sentiments and a flagrant challenge to all Arab values and principles. It is obvious that the Syrian foreign munister has tried to make his message a coverup and a justification for that condemned visit.

The Syrian people, who heartily support Iraq in its honorable confrontation of the Iranian aggression, are aware that Iraq, whose citizens' blood has mixed with Syrian citizens' blood in defending Syria and Palestine, will never try to harm Syria or Syrian citizens. Syrian citizens know better than anyone else the massacres committed by the Syrian regime against Syrian citizens in many Syrian cities in order to carry out its suspected policies and objectives.

What drew our attention were the contents of the Syrian foreign minister's message regarding efforts to purify the Arab atmosphere and the Arab League Charter while everyone agrees that the Syrian regime is mainly responsible for poisoning the Arab atmosphere and destroying Arab solidarity with its actions which openly violate the Arab League Charter and the Collective Arab Defense Pact —actions represented by its shameful aggression against the Palestinian Arab people, its behavior in Lebanon, and by its suspected alliance with Iran against Iraq.

Finally, if the Syrian foreign minister means what he says in his message about the Arab League Charter, Iraq proposes starting an objective and constructive dialogue during the Arab League's forthcoming meeting to define the obligations of every side toward the Arab League Charter, the Collective Arab Defense Pact, and the solidarity charter and abiding by the Arab decision made during the meeting.

[Signed] Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister

Baghdad, 20 March, 1986

Leaves for Tunis Meeting

JN231716 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1652 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Mar (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Baghdad for Tunis today to lead the Iraqi delegation at the meetings of the 85th session of the Arab League Council beginning tomorrow.

Saddam Husayn Congratulates France's Jacques Chirac

JN211257 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Mar 86

["Text" of cable of congratulations from President Saddam Husayn to French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac —date not given]

[Text] Your Excellency Prime Minister Jacques Chirac. It gives me pleasure to send to you the warmest congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of your assumption of the French premiership. It also gives me pleasure on this occasion to affirm to you our concern about bolstering and promoting the existing bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation —the foundations of which you personally had a prominent role in.

We are deeply convinced that these relations, built on confidence, mutual respect, and common benefit, serve our peoples' essential interests and the issues of peace and constructive cooperation regarding the world and our region in particular. With best wishes for success in your mission.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq

Saddam Husayn Receives Call From YAR President

JN211858 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1830 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Mar (INA) — President Saddam Husayn received a telephone call from his brother YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih today. President Salih stressed the YAR's support, both people's and government's, for Iraq in its just confrontation of the Iranian enemy.

President Saddam Husayn reassured his brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih about the firmness of the Iraqi front, thanking him for the YAR's pan-Arab stand on Iraq, which proves the genuineness of the Arab people in the YAR.

PDRY Envoy Conveys Message to President Husayn

GF221828 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Brother Ahmad 'Ali Maysari, PDRY ambassador in Baghdad, has delivered a written message from Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, addressed to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

This took place during the ambassador's meeting with Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Two Citizens Pardoned by Husayn Hold Interview

JN230754 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2025 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA) — Iraqi television this evening interviewed two Iraqi citizens who showed repentance for their affiliation to parties which are hostile to Iraq's course and revolution. The two citizens were pardoned by President Saddam Husayn.

Muhammad Hasan Muhammad 'Ali Khayr al-Din, born in 1946 and resident of Al-Tarbiyah quarter in Baghdad said that he left Iraq in 1979 to study in France. He said that while visiting Syria he joined a group which is hostile to Iraq.

He added: I carried out activities during my stay in Syria, France, and other European countries. I used to persuade others abroad to join the group. Many refused out of love for the homeland, especially since they realized that the organizations which are hostile to Iraq are connected to hostile countries such as Iran, Syria, and Libya. He stressed that the organizations which are hostile to Iraq and which operate under the cover of religion carry out sabotage operations inside and outside Iraq every time Iraq scores any victory against the Iranian forces. He added that the objective for carrying out criminal acts outside Iraq, and namely in the Gulf countries and France is that these organizations believe that through their terrorist acts they can influence these countries' stands toward Iraq and have them improve their relations with Iran. He said that the common objective of these organizations is hostility toward Iraq and the attempt to harm its security and stability and that the members of these organizations are being trained in camps and special schools in Syria, Libya, and Iran. He also said that the members of these organizations are constantly being assisted by the organs of the Syrian and Libyan regimes in addition to receiving support from the Iranain regime.

Fawzi Hadi Hamzah, born in 1950 and a resident of Al-Kazimiyah, said that he left Iraq for Egypt in 1976 and from there he left for Libya, then to Abu Dhabi and France to pursue his studies.

He said that he visited Syria several times, and that he had left for France following a long stay in the UAE. He said that elements hostile to Iraq contacted him in Paris. He added: I had been deceived because I used to believe that the Iranian regime was governing in accordance to Islamic law. I can confirm that real men of religion in Iran now oppose Khomeyni's regime and that they are persecuted by this regime which falsely claims that it is ruling in accordance with Islamic law.

The two citizens thanked President Saddam Husayn for pardoning them and allowing them to live with their families and their friends.

Commander Cables Saddam Husayn on Panjwin Battle

JN211949 Baghdad INA in Arabci 1910 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Mar (INA) — A high-ranking Iraqi military commander has said that the Iraqi forces' destruction of the

Iranian regime's forces in Panjwin today is an extension of their destruction in eastern Chuwartah.

In a cable he sent to President Saddam Husayn tonight, Special Forces Staff Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Karim Al-Khazraji, commander of the I Army Corps, added that the Iraqi forces proceeded toward their set targets in order to liberate the (Taryar) mountain and the important strategic positions in the Panjwin sector and managed to liberate them after tearing up enemy troops and turning them into mutilated corpses littering mountains and valleys.

He indicated that the Armed Forces, supported by lightly equipped regiments and volunteers from the sons of our Kurdish people, vied with one another for the attainment of their targets and purged Iraq's sacred land of the filth of the convetous and grudge bearers. He concluded by saying that the Iraqi Armed Forces are awaiting orders to move and crush the Iranian forces everywhere.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

4 Northern Attacks Repulsed

JN231642 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1628 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi forces crushed four Iranian attacks on three mountain peaks in the northern sector last night and at dawn today. The peaks were recently purged of Iranian forces. A military spokesman told INA that the first attack occurred at 0030 today [2130 GMT on 22 March] against Peaks 1,790 and 1,774. Later, the enemy made two more attacks on the same peaks. The spokesman also said that the enemy launched an attack against Peak 1,412 at dawn today. He added that forces from the Republican Guard led by the Al-Siddiq Forces confronted the Iranian attacks and inflicted heavy losses on them, killing some and forcing the rest to flee. The land was preserved for its people.

Further Attacks Repulsed

JN230827 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 23 Mar 86

[By Salah Mahdi al-'Askari]

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 23 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi forces in the I Army Corps sector have fortified their defensive positions in the Panjwin mountain heights which were liberated the day before yesterday. The Iraqi forces in the I Army Corps sector in the Panjwin area last night destroyed two Iranian attacks on the 1st column, which liberated vantage point 1,625, and wiped out all the attacking Iranian force. None of them managed to approach the liberated Iraqi positions. The 3d column also crushed another Iranian attack and wiped out enemy forces. None escaped death. The Iraqi artillery yesterday destroyed and burned an Iranian column consisting of 20 vehicles loaded with ammunition, personnel, and equipment deep inside Iran. Iraq's forward observation posts saw flames and dense columns of smoke rising from this column.

Iranian F-5 Downed

JN221808 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1802 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA) — Iraqi ground resistance shot down an Iranian F-5 plane over the VII Army Corps front today. A military spokesman here today said that two Iranian planes tried to violate our international borders over the VII Army Corps southern sector at 1455 [1155 GMT] today. Our ground resistance intercepted them, shooting down one of them while the other fled.

2d Iranian F-5 Downed

JN221841 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1831 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful. With God's help we continue to score victories while the frustrated aggressors are proceeding on the raod to collapse and defeat. Every time they try to harm this patient and steadfast country, they face God's wrath and complete loss. Another two enemy planes tried to violate our international borders over the VII Army Corps sector. The heroic men of our ground resistance intercepted them, shooting down one of them, an F-5 plane at 1636 [1336 GMT] today. Thus, our valiant men shot down two enemy planes today. May God bless them and guide their footsteps on the path of victory.

[Dated] 22 March 1986

'Large' Maritime Target Hit

JN222051 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2040 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Let the charlatans who are crouching in the abyss of shame and humiliation know that the just Iraqi blows will be dealt to them round the clock and anywhere they may be as a reward for the harm they did to great Iraq, the land of good, amity, and peace. Continuing to tighten the siege on all the resources the enemy uses for its evil designs, the brave men of the sea dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 1930 [1630 GMT] today. After carrying out their duty, the brave men of the Navy safely returned to base, protected by God.

[Dated] 22 March 1986

Maritime Target Hit 23 March

JN232104 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2054 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The brave eagles of the air have performed another heroic deed today while destroying enemy supplies and resources. At 2200 [1900 GMT] today, they carried out a successful raid against a large maritime target off the Iranian coast, dealing it an accurate, effective hit. Our eagles returned to the homeland with their planes, protected by God.

[Dated] 23 March 1986

Tanker Fire Under Control

GF240608 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 24 Mar 86 p 1

[Excerpt] Salvage tugs were last night towing the devastated supertanker *Atlanticos* away from Khark Island as fast as possible following a series of Iraqi air raids on the beleaguered terminal.

A salvage source in the Gulf said Khark was raided three times on Saturday night as firefighters attempted to douse the blaze which had raged on the 260,000 tonne vessel since Thursday.

By early yesterday the worst of the fire was under control.

"We wanted to get out of there as soon as we could...it's a bit hot," said a local salvage source.

He said he expected the tanker to be towed to a neutral Gulf port, probably Dubai.

Iranian Raid on Steel Mill Denied

JN221133 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1113 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied that the Iranians bombed a steel mill in Al-'Amarah in southern Iraq. The spokesman told INA that the Iranians are exposing their own lies because the whole world knows that there are no steel mills in Al-'Amarah.

Iranian Bombing Claims Ridiculed

JN231332 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1302 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Mar (INA) — An Iraqi military source has refuted the Iranian rulers' claim that they have bombed a naval base they called the Al-Bihar base in which they say there are Iraqi concentrations. The source told INA that it is well known that Al-Bihar is a small village surrounded by palm trees and that its people raise and breed cattle. No ships can dock there, there is no place for guns, and its lanes cannot accomodate vehicles.

The source noted that the Iraqi Defense Ministry's Political Guidance Department has organized a visit to the village by reporters in order to show them the clay houses of the villages which Rafsanjani said were a naval base and which he claimed to have shelled with missiles.

The Iraqi military source ridiculed the stupidity and charlatanism of the Iranian rulers and said: Thank God, our enemies cannot differentiate between a naval base and a stable for animals.

Spokesman Denies Plane Downed

JN232008 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1945 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Mar (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied that Iran shot down an Iraqi plane in the Baneh region in the northern sector last Friday. The spokesman told INA this evening that all Iraqi planes returned safely to base that day.

Communique No 2,157

JN211557 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,157 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 21 March 1986]

[Excerpt] O proud Iraqis, following the great victories scored by the heroic I Army Corps soldiers who drove the enemy back in disgrace, our forces in this valiant Army Corps continued to utilize the great victory by launching a sweeping offensive against tyrannical enemy remnants at some border vantage points in the Panjwin area in which the enemy has established a foothold since 1983. The fierce lions of the valiant Al-Siddiq Forces, supported by the intensive shelling of our capable artillery and brave Kurdish fighters, dashed to climb these mountain peaks under heavy fire in four brave columns and a fifth decoy column. After a fierce battle, the men managed to wipe out the enemy and rid the peaks of their filth, thus restoring their true face to these Iraqi peaks. Accordingly, our forces completely purged vantage points 1,625, 1848, 1,774, 1,881, 1,790, and 1,364 after killing a large number of enemy personnel and capturing scores of others. Thus, the land returned to its owners and the Iraqi banner was hoisted over the immortal mountains. Your enemy, O glorious Iraqis, was driven back and suffered an abject defeat, leaving its dead in the battlefield. The situation was settled in favor of our triumphant forces. Following this spectacular victory, the entire Panjwin basin has been placed under the absolute protection and supervision of our forces.

The men who planned this epic and led our forces along the paths of victory toward the peak of glory are: 1) Special Forces Staff Lieutenant General Nazir 'Abd al-Karim al-Khazraji, commander of the heroic I Army Corps; 2) Special Forces Staff Brigadier General Kamil Sajit 'Aziz, commander of the heroic Al-Siddiq Forces; 3) Staff Brigadier General Nasir Sa'id Tawfiq, commander of the 4th column; 4) Special Forces Brigadier General 'Ali Husayn Miz'il, commander of the 2d column; 5) Colonel Hamid Hasan Khalaf, commander of the artillery corps; 6) Special Forces Lieutenant Colonel Zaki Khattab Fad'am, command of the 1st column; 7) Lietenant Colonel Ahmad Muhammad Rashid, commander of the 3d column; and 8) fighter Sabir al-Surji, commander of the decoy column.

This is how those who seek glory should proceed. We pledge to rub the noses of the Khomeyniites in the mud of defeat everywhere. We will turn their destiny into a lesson and an example to anyone who tries to undermine the peoples' security and sovereignty. Long live the people; long live the leader; long live the Army. God is great; ignominy to the enemy.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 March 1986

Communique No 2,158

JN211730 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,158 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 21 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant forces continue their combat activities in all sectors, imposing their absolute control on the operational theaters and inflicting massive losses on enemy personnel, weaponry, and equipment.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. The valiant Al-Rashid and northern columns continued to engage the enemy with a stream of continuous, heavy fire day and night. Supported by our Air Force, artillery, helicopter gunships, and Navy, our forces inflicted massive losses on enemy forces in the narrow strip of the Al-Faw peninsula. Our forces on this front are asserting their overwhelming superiorty over the enemy. They are very accurately carrying out the set plans aimed at purging the land and destroying the enemy.

2. Our heroic Air Force will continue to be a sword brandished in the face of the covetous invaders. The valiant eagles are determined not to allow the enemy any breathing room or facility which may serve its hostile designs. Our Air Force carried out the following missions:

a. The brave eagles carried out 168 combat missions against the defeated enemy remnants, inflicting massive losses.

b. At 0720 [0420 GMT] today our planes carried two raids on a bridge used by infantry and another used by vehicles which the enemy erected on the Karun River to replace the bridges our Air Force had destroyed earlier. The brave eagles destroyed them both and returned safely and triumphantly to the homeland in God's care and protection, proud of their great accomplishments.

3. The brave cavaliers of the helicopter gunships carried out 91 combat sorties during which they destroyed enemy weapons and equipment and wiped out several troop concentrations. They returned safely to base.

4. Our brave units in the III Army Corps sector east of al-Basrah pounded enemy positions opposite them and destroyed five infantry positions, killing or wounding their occupants. An ambulance was seen evacuating enemy losses. One vehicle, one single-barrelled machinegun emplacement, and one medium-sized machinegun emplacement were also destroyed.

5. The forces of evil and aggression shelled the city of Al-'Uzayr, the district of Al-Qurnah, and the suburbs of Khanaqin, Mandali, and Khurmal with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 March 1986

Communique No 2,159

JN221750 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,159 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 22 March 1986]

[Excerpt] The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. On the VII Army Corps front: The heroic fighters of the Al-Rashid and northern columns continue to pour their hellish fire on enemy remnants who are trapped in the narrow strip of the Al-Faw peninsula. Our forces on this front inflicted heavy losses in life, weapons, military hardware, equipment on the aggressors, transforming the ground under their feet into hell. Confusion and defeatism is spreading among enemy ranks.

2. To make the despotic Iranian rulers understand that their aggression against our country will make them lose everything and will only bring them destruction, shame, and humiliation; to make these despots understand the meaning cf Iraqi air superiority and the true meaning of its feats; and to perpetuate the rejoicing of our masses in their Armed Forces' victories, our giant Air Force assumes the responsibility of completely depriving the charlatan regime of any vital facility and the possibility of prolonging the policy of war. Our zealous eagles will continue to roam over Iran daily, wiping out any targets that help the Khomeyniites commit crimes. At 1515 today, a group of our planes carried out a surprise and devastating raid on the large (Narmin) power station in the (?veyseh) area northeast of Ahvaz with capacity of 1,260 megawatts. With a volley of their missiles, our eagles completely destroyed the station, leaving columns of smoke and flames spiraling from its debris. They safely returned with their planes to base. Iranian rulers, these are the courageous deeds of the Air Force. They are the best present to you, O bats of the night. We will continue to stalk you everywhere and at all times until we eradicate your evils and make you curse the moment you became involved in the aggression against Iraq.

Congratulations to our people and to our Air Force — commanders, eagles, officers, and other ranks. We seek success from God and He is the one who assists us.

3. The staunch eagles of the air continue their air strikes against enemy troop concentrations, weapons, and communications lines, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy in 150 combat missions they carried out today. After carrying out all these missions, they safely returned with their planes to base, praise be to God.

4. The brave helicopter gunship knights continuously and effectively pursue their combat sorties to inflict further losses on the

enemy. They carried out 61 combat sorties today after which they safely returned to base, protected by God.

5. Dealing intensive blows to areas where the enemy forces are present opposite our positions in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, our fighters killed three enemy soldiers, destroyed one infantry position whose occupants were killed, one medium-caliber machinegun, one infantry position, and a machinegun position.

6. The despotic Khomeyniites shelled the Khanaqin and Mandali environs and the environs of the (Darbandikhan) District with long-range artillery.

7. Two enemy planes violated our international borders at 1146 today having as their target the residential areas in the Maysan Governorate. As a result of the incident, one elementary school was damaged, six civilians were wounded, and an 11-year-old schoolboy was martyred. While we ask God to have mercy on our martyr and wish a speedy recovery for our wounded, we tell the Iranian rulers that vileness is one of the most prominent traits of cowards. We shall avenge our martyr with God's help.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 March 1986

King Husayn, Delegation Return From Cairo

JN201829 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn returned to the homeland this evening after a working visit of several hours to Egypt. The king was received by His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad, his majesty the king's personal representative; His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan; His Highness Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, the chief chamberlain; the deputy Senate president; the ministers; a number of senior officials; and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman.

Returning with the king were Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim; Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces General Zayd ibn Shakir, and Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri.

'No Breakthroughs' With PLO

JN220735 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 22 Mar 86 p 1

[By Salamih B. Ni'mat with agency dispatches]

[Text] Amman — A senior Jordanian official said on Friday that there was no change in Jordan's position vis-a-vis the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) following Jordanian- Egyptian summit talks in Cairo on Thursday.

The official said that "nothing exceptional" was reached during the Cairo talks between His Majesty King Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and that the talks focused on ways to "unify Arab ranks."

"There are no breakthroughs regarding the PLO," the official told the *JORDAN TIMES* in a telephone interview. "Our position is very clear. There have been no changes."

The official said he was not aware of any connection between King Husayn's talks in Cairo and the reportedly planned visit to Cairo on Saturday by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. "He (Mr. 'Arafat) goes there regularly ... it has nothing to do with our talks in Egypt," said the official.

The King was quoted as saying on Thursday that efforts for finding a just and durable settlement for the Middle East problem were a dead end for the time being.

"We have had a very serious setback and reached a dead end, so to speak, for the time being," the King was said to have told reporters at the end of his meeting with President Mubarak. "It is a period of reflection for all those concerned in the area," the King said. He was apparently referring to Jordan's decision last month to terminate political coordination with the leadership of the PLO.

The King's meeting with President Mubarak was the first since last October. The two leaders had a closed meeting which lasted for 90 minutes before they were joined by aides for an enlarged meeting at Al-Qubbah Presidential Palace in Cairo. The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah and Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir.

Upon returning to Amman, King Husayn sent a cable to President Mubarak voicing appreciation for the hospitality accorded to the Jordanian delegation during the visit. He said he was deeply impressed by the consultations in Cairo and which he said were focused on issues of concern to the Arab Nation, according to the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY, PETRA.

In his cable, King Husayn described the talks in Cairo as another stage in the long endeavours designed to serve the peoples of the Arab Nation.

Reportage on Saddam Husayn's Activities

Addresses UN Antiapartheid Group

JN220909 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] New York — His Majesty King Husayn has said that the Palestinian Arab people under occupation are exposed to coercion and inhuman practices and that Israel continues to make laws and policies encroaching on their rights and means of existence in their homeland.

The king addressed a message to the UN Antiapartheid Committee and it was read by 'Abdallah Salah, Jordan's permanent UN representative, during a celebration held at the United Nations yesterday on the occasion of the international day to end apartheid. In the message his majesty said: Jordan shares with the international community its rejection of policies aimed at oppressing people or encroaching on their civil, natural, and political rights because of race, color, and religious or political convictions.

The king said: My country, which bases its policies on Islamic principles, Arab traditions stemming from these principles, and on the UN Charter in letter and spirit, expresses deep concern and regret over the continuation of racial policies and practices in the age of civilization, awakening, and democracy — theage of human rights and liberties. Jordan also expresses its honest support for the international community's moves in the United Nations, the Security Council, and all international organizations rejecting the practices carried out by South Africa against African citizens, as well as its laws which ignore human rights and are contrary to human behavior and ethics.

His majesty affirmed that Jordan believes that any regime which is not based on humane law, which ignores UN principles and international charters and resolutions, and which does not apply equal laws for all the people in the same country should be rejected and fought.

King Husayn added: If we do so, we will remove an important source of tension, minimize the chances of exposing international security and peace to danger, commemorate victims of apartheid throughout history, and express our support for the citizens in South Africa who are standing steadfast against repression.

His majesty the king expressed Jordan's solidarity with the nationalists in South Africa; its support for their just struggle to regain their rights, liberties, and human dignity; and its renewed commitment to work together with the international community to end apartheid and all dangers threatening international security and peace.

Receives ICO's Pirzada, Comoran Minister

JN221642 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received ICO Secretary General Sharifuddin Pirzada at the Royal Hashemite Court this evening. The discussions, which were attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, focused on the current situation in the Islamic arena as well as on the challenges that are threatening both the Arab and Islamic nations. His majesty also stressed the importance of strengthening Islamic cooperation in accordance with the principle of solidarity and mutual responsibility in order to overcome our nation's difficulties.

His majesty also received the Comoran minister of economy and finance, who conveyed to his majesty a message from Comoran President Ahmed Abdallah. During this meeting, the Comoran minister praised Jordan's positive role under His Majesty King Husayn in achieving a just and comprehenisve peace in the Middle East.

Postpones Visit to Saudi Arabia

GF221352 Doha QNA in Arabic 1345 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Amman, 22 Mar (QNA) — It has been learned from a well-informed Jordanian source that the visit of the Jordanian monarch, His Majesty King Husayn, to Saudi Arabia has been postponed. The Jordanian monarch will visit at a later time as part of his tour to a number of the region's countries.

The Jordanian monarch visited Baghdad and met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. He also visited Cairo and met with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak within the framework of coordination and consultation with Arab leaders on current developments and the escalation of the Iraq-Iran war which threatens neighboring countries.

Receives Call From Iraqi President

JN191618 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received a telephone call from His Excellency Iraqi President Saddam Husayn today. The Iraqi president reassured the king about the strength and solidness of the Iraqi military position in the face of the Iranian regime's aggression.

His excellency affirmed to his majesty the king that the brave Iraqi Army has completely purged the northern sector of the front from the Iranian invasion forces.

Prince Hasan Meets Pakistani Defense Academy Group

JN221902 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan received in his office this afternoon the head and members of the Pakistani National Defense Academy who are currently visiting Jordan His highness briefed the delegation on the overall situation in the Middle East as well as on the Iraq-Iran war and Iranian ambitions in the Gulf area. He also touched on security in the Red Sea zone and the Zionist plans that are in line with Iranian ambitions in our region. He also called on the Islamic world to cooperate, close ranks, and return to the rules of the true religion. At the end of the meeting, his highness answered the questions posed by the guest delegation. The meeting was attended by the Pakistani ambassador and the Pakistani military attache in Amman.

Prime Minister Receives Saudi, Turkish Ministers

JN221435 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received in his office this morning Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy of fraternal Saudi Arabia, who is currently visiting Jordan to participate in the 10th annual meeting of the Council of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank. Attending the meeting were Dr Hisham al-Khatib, acting finance minister, and the Saudi ambassador in Amman.

The prime minister also received Vehpi Dincerler, Turkish minister of state for prime minister's office affairs, [title as heard] in his office this afternoon. He conveyed a verbal message to the prime minister from Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal. The Turkish ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Visiting Ugandan Minister on Ties With Israel

JN222002 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Ugandan Minister of Foreign Affairs Ibrahim Mukiibi has stressed his country's support for the Arab countries in their just struggle to regain their occupied territories and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. During a press conference held at the Marriott Hotel in Amman this evening on the periphery of the meetings of the Council of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank, he told PETRA-JNA that Uganda will not establish diplomatic relations with Israel, affirming that his government is ready to cooperate with all countries except Israel and South Africa. He also appealed to the Islamic countries to support his country's efforts to overcome the economic and social crises resulting from Uganda's difficult circumstances. He added that his country has prepared an emergency aid program to be presented to the ICO countries, the Islamic Development Bank, and all the friendly countries. He explained that the program calls for extending emergency aid of $160 million to Uganda for the reconstruction of the country, which was destroyed by the war, during the next 6 months. He also stressed his country's adherence to the principle of noninteference in other countries' domestic affairs and to positive neutrality in cooperation with all countries on the basis of respect for other countries' independence and sovereignty.

Joint Syrian Economic Committee Meets in Amman

JN202029 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] A joint Jordanian-Syrian economic committee opened talks in Amman today to discuss measures to facilitate the flow of national products into the markets of both countries. The talks also covered bank transfers to settle payments and the establishment of trade centers in Amman and Damascus. The Jordanian side to the talks is led by Under Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Mr Muhammad al-Saqoaf and the Syrian side is headed by his Syrian counterpart, Mr Ahmad al-Dabbas.

AL-DUSTUR on U.S. Mediterranean Maneuvers

JN240842 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 24 Mar 86 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "A Return to Gunboat Diplomacy"]

[Text] The United States has renewed its military maneuvers in the Mediterranean off the Libyan coast. These maneuvers appear to be part of a determined effort to elicit Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's reaction and provoke him to approach the U.S. planes or the 6th Fleet ships. This would then provide an excuse for a possible U.S. action against Libyan territory.

Despite our known reservations about Al-Qadhdhafi's regime and our strong rejection of many of his stands and policies on the Arab level, particularly toward the Iraq-Iran war. This does not prevent us from viewing the U.S. naval maneuvers as pure provocation against Arab territory and a fraternal Arab people. Such provocation by a superpower against a small country will result in spreading tension and shaking security and stability in the entire Mediterranean basin.

By continuing and intensifying such provocative maneuvers, the United States is setting a serious international precedent and opens the doors wide for the big powers' warships to implement coercive colonialist policies against small Third World countries.

The United States, which has taken international law into its own hands and is implementing this law by military force, is once again returning to the gunboat diplomacy rejected by international law in past decades and replaced by the UN law and a number of international agreements.

Once more, while declaring our opposition to many of al-Qadhdhafi's practices and stands toward many Arab issues, our feelings remain with the Libyan people and we will consider any foreign provocation against that people, particularly by a superpower such as the United States, as interference in the internal affairs of that fraternal people.

Therefore, the continued U.S. military maneuvers off the Libyan coast are rejected by all criteria. These maneuvers remain an unjustifiable provocation, particularly since the dangers that accompany them and the eventualities that may result from them will exacerbate tension in this part of the world and will result in a vicious circle of reaction. This will neither serve the declared U.S. objectives nor solve any of the issues that are ready to explode with friction of this kind.

Birri Reportedly Rejects Al-Jumayyil Plea

NC221625 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Today's newspapers have reported that the president of the Republic has asked an Arab diplomat to convey a message to Minister Nabih Birri. According to these reports, the message says that Minister Birri can play an important role in repairing the broken bridges between the government and Damascus in order to achieve a political solution to the current crisis.

It has been learned, however, that Minister Birri has rejected this proposal. He said that acceptance of the tripartite agreement is the minimum condition for opening dialogue with the government. Minister Birri then asked: In what way has President al-Jumayyil changed his position so as to allow us to request that the Syrian brothers put their confidence in him? Whoever seeks to reopen the dialogue with Damascus must first meet the necessary requirements of Lebanon. As one of the primary leaders responsible for undermining the tripartite agreement, President al-Jumayyil must now take the initiative.

UN's Goulding Holds Meetings With Officials

Goulding, Al-Jumayyil Talk

NC222205 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] A short while ago, President Amin al-Jumayyil and Marrack Goulding ended their approximately 2-hour meeting. As he was departing, Goulding said: I had a long conference with the president and briefed him on the results of my talks in neighbouring countries on the situation in southern Lebanon and the role of UNIFIL there. Goulding added: President al-Jumayyil stressed the Lebanese Government wishes that the UNIFIL mandate be extended for another 6 months. The UN official noted: We also discussed peace in the area.

Goulding Briefs Birri

NC220928 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Lawyer Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, received UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding and his assistant Jean-Claude Aime at 0945 today. Goulding briefed Birri on the outcome of his visits to Damascus, Amman, and Tel Aviv. They also discussed the general situation existing in the south.

Birri Comments on Talks

NC222155 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Remarks by Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, in response to questions by unidentified correspondents after his meeting with UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding on 22 March — recorded]

[Text] You are aware that Mr Goulding is making efforts in view of the approaching date for the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate and for the discussion of this matter on 19 April. Mr Goulding had earlier visited Lebanon and me personally to talk about this. Our position has been clear with regard to the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate: We support this renewal, as well as assistance for UNIFIL. Indeed, we aspire to increase UNIFIL's effectiveness and expanding its deployment up to the international borderline, in accordance with Resolution 425. Following Goulding's visit to a number of capitals in the area, we say that we are optimistic about the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate. However, as for progress in UNIFIL's task, this is still being discussed and [words indistinct]

[Question] Does this mean that there are difficulties on reinforcing and deploying UNIFIL on the borders?

[Birri] There are difficulties, as you are aware, especially because the United States has cut more than 50 percent of its aid and because there is great pressure to frustrate the UNIFIL task in southern Lebanon. I believe that this is not in the interest of the southerners. Israel inspires the U.S. pressure.

[Question] There has been recent talk about guarantees in the south, about arrangements or [words indistinct] guarantees for Israel's withdrawal, especially since it has been reiterated that there is a possibility for Israel to withdraw from the security zone.

[Birri] The Amal Movement position on this matter is well known. The only acceptable arrangement is Israel's unconditional withdrawal and the implementation of Resolution 425.

Karami on Goulding, Soviet Talks

NC221738 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Statement by Prime Minister Rashid Karami after meeting with Assistant UN Secretary General Marrack Goulding and with the Soviet charge d'affaires in Beirut on 22 March — recorded]

[Text] I received Assistant UN Secretary General Marrack Goulding, following his tour of some Arab counties and Israel. He briefed me on the results of his meetings and on what various government officials had told him. As a result, I can say that there is no change in Israel's stand on matters that concern us, in particular, the withdrawal, the security strip, the blockade of Tyre and Sidon ports, and ambitions related to our waters. I am very much concerned about the fate of the Al-Litani River.

Regarding the siege of the south, the Israelis stress that there is no siege, only a ban on bringing in weapons, particularly to the Palestinian resistance. As for the Al-Litani River, the Israelis stress that they have no ambitions involving any of our waters. Concerning total withdrawal, they claim that their stand on and their continued presence in the occupied areas are only for the protection and security of their country. However, we continue to insist on the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions, especially 425, which calls for Israel's quick and unconditional withdrawal and for maintaining and deploying UNIFIL forces, together with our Army, along the borders with this historic enemy.

Briefly, this is the situation. We hope that the United Nations, out of concern for its dignity and role, will act as it should and will exercise its responsibility to reveal the true Israeli stands.

I also received the Soviet charge d'affaires, who conveyed his government's stand on the U.S. initiative and measures affecting USSR UN employees and representatives. For reasons that are not secret, the United States has taken measures to limit the movement of some of these Soviet representatives outside of work. The Soviets stress that the U.S. aims to pressure and influence the United Nations and confine its role. We are among the countries that are affected by this unjust U.S. policy, which opposes nations that are discriminated against. These nations consider the United Nations to be the principal international recourse for complaints and for demands for an end to oppressive action. We are not surprised by this conduct, of which the Soviet Union, along with us, is complaining. This complaint must make the public aware of the U.S. ideas, intentions, and attempts.

Soviet Envoy on Karami Meeting

NC221739 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] In a statement following his meeting with Prime Minister Rashid Karami today, the Soviet charge d'affaires said: We discussed the Lebanese parliamentary delegation's visit to the Soviet Union, as well as certain matters pertaining to the situation in the south.

Asked if he supports the U.S. and Israeli proposals for the establishment of security arrangements in the south, the Soviet charge d'affaires replied: We have not received any proposal in this regard. Concerning the Soviet position on renewing the UNIFIL mandate, the Soviet charge d'affaires stated: Our stand on this issue has not changed.

Goulding on Security Zone, UNIFIL

NC221809 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] After his meeting with Prime Minister Karami today, UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding told journalists: We discussed the visits that I have been making in the Middle East. We also conferred on the situation in the south, UNIFIL's future role, and broader topics on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Replying to a question about security arrangements in the south, Goulding said: It is clear from public statements that the Israeli Government wants to maintain the security zone, while the Lebanese Government rejects this.

Responding to a question about the effect of the security zone on UNIFIL's task, Goulding noted that the presence of this security zone certainly does have an effect. This zone prevents UNIFIL from advancing to the international borders stipulated by UN Security Council Resolution 425. We are trying to find ways to ensure the implementation of this resolution as soon as possible.

Goulding then left for the Presidential Palace to meet with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil.

Goulding on Israeli Position

NC230946 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding has informed Lebanese officials that Israel is asking for new formulas with regard to a security agreement with Lebanon. He said that the Israeli officials with whom he met have not rejected Lebanon's request that Israeli forces withdraw from southern territory, which Israel calls the security zone.

However, these officials do want guarantees that their settlements in northern Israel will not be subjected to terrorist operations or to shelling from positions within Lebanon. The Israeli officials have indicated that they will seek these guarantees from Lebanon and Syria within the framework of any reasonable formula acceptable to all three countries. Goulding said that the Israeli officials had informed him that until such guarantees are achieved, Israel will only trust its own Army to protect Israeli citizens living close to the border.

According to official sources, Goulding is also quoted as having said that the reason behind the Israeli demand for a security agreement with Lebanon is the fact that Israel has information that indicates that Palestinians, equipped with the most modern weapons, have returned to the south through sectarian organizations and active parties located there. Goulding noted that Israel believes it would be neither reasonable nor logical for it to contemplate withdrawing its forces from the security zone in the south before the Israeli Government has ascertained that the Palestinian squads have withdrawn. It must also obtain guarantees that the Lebanese are capable of preventing any hostile activities against Israel.

Goulding, therefore, believes that the Israeli position will help him in his task to formulate ideas that will be useful for a new international initiative to implement UN Security Council Resolutions 425, 426, 508, and 509.

French Embassy Workers Hold Demonstration, Strike

NC220830 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Approximately 30 employees of the French Embassy in Lebanon demonstrated outside the building in Mar Taqla in Al-Hazimiyah yesterday. They also observed a 1-hour strike to mark the first anniversary of the kidnapping of French diplomat Marcel Carton.

Fadlallah Expects French Hostage Solution 'Soon'

NC240727 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has affirmed that the question of establishing an Islamic republic in Lebanon is a political joke and is inconsistent with the political situation.

In an interview with *AL-ANWAR*, Fadallah said he thinks that the purpose of papal initiative was not to solve the Lebanese problem because conditions are not conducive to a solution, and the Vatican does not have the green light to press for such a solution. The initiative aims to organize the Christian situation and the relationship with Syria.

Fadlallah affirmed that Hizballah has pledged not to kidnap Christians. He said that the issue of the French hostages is part of the French-Iranian conflict. He expects that a solution to this problem will be reached soon.

Release Linked To Socialists' Fall

NC231726 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1645 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has declared that the fluid fighting among Muslims in West Beirut is part of a plan guided by certain intelligence services, as well as by regional and possibly international policies. Meanwhile, in an interview with the magazine *AL-MUSTAQBAL*, Fadlallah said that the abductors of the French hostages will release their captives as soon as the Socialist regime in France falls.

Birri on Amal's Objectives, Vatican Initiative

NC222140 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Attorney Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction, has reiterated his abidance of the resistance as a main factor for liberation. He said: We are not responsible for security in Galilee. The security zone is an Israeli pretext to cover its covetous designs. Minister Birri said that the solution of the domestic problem will only come through the solution of the problem in southern Lebanon. He pointed out that the Vatican initiative has failed because it has not begun.

Minister Birri's remarks were made during a reception that the Amal Movement held at the Summerland Hotel at 1500 today on the 12th anniversary of the establishment of the movement. Attending the reception were the ambassadors of the PRC, CSSR, Yugoslavia, Italy, Bulgaria, Japan, ROK, Austria, Ireland, Cuba, Romania, and the DPRK, as well as Soviet Charges d'Affaires Suslikov, and the charges d'affaires from Algeria, the FRG and the GDR.

At the reception, Minister Birri delivered the following speech:

[Begin recording] The Amal Movement will never accept kidnappings, whether they involve Lebanese, Arabs, or foreigners, specifically French, or others. The movement believes in the complete freedom of the citizen and is fighting all types of repression — dictatorship, feudalism, hegemony, and murder of citizens. Consequently, the Amal Movement opposes political sectarianism. Amal is not motivated by sectarianism, as some quarters allege. From this premise, we affirm that our demand for the cancellation of political sectarianism does not mean that we want an Islamic state, as the Phalangist Party has claimed. To be specific, the Phalangist Party and the Lebanese Forces want an Islamic republic, so that there will be a justification for a Christian republic. The Amal Movement completely rejects this. The movement fought and will continue to fight for Lebanon's unity.

Amal is a nationalist movement, which respects countries' sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the homeland, while combating colonialism and covetous designs against Lebanon. Adherence to pan-Arab interests and liberation of the Arab land are at the core of the movement's indivisible commitments. Amal believes that the survival of the homeland depends on the survival of the south, and that allegiance to the homeland means allegiance to the south. Therefore, everyone must join in the resistance. From this premise, the Amal Movement formed its stand on the issue of Palestine, the Palestinian people, and the Palestinian resistance. The movement supports the Palestinian people and resistance in their struggle to regain their land and establish their homeland in Palestine.

We hereby reiterate our commitment to the resistance in southern Lebanon. We repeat that this resistance is the principal factor necessary to liberate Lebanon. The second factor, which is compementary, is the presence of the UN emergency forces, the implementation of Resolution 425, and the deployment of the Lebanese Army alongside the UN emergency forces at the border lines. Israel will not benefit from its commitment to the security zone. At present, Israel tells the world that it wants the security zone to protect Galilee. Although we are not responsible for the safeguarding of Galilee, we declare that Israel's pretext is groundless because Israel has twice admitted that the border zone does not constitute the security zone that Israel desires. [end recording]

Karami on Vatican Move, South

NC211334 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] In an interview with the doyen of the Editors Association, Milhim Karam, Prime Minister Rashid Karami said that the papal initiative has been greeted with much respect and appreciation by other countries. This shows that it is considered to be important and indicative of concern for the future of Lebanon.

With regard to the situation in the South, Karami said: Security arrangements should be Lebanese. We are committed to the armistice agreement, which is seen as a document of international significance, since it was issued by the Security Council.

Reiterating his rejection of the concept of internationalization, Karami said: If the whole world unanimously agreed on a particular solution which was rejected by the Lebanese, this solution would be worthless. Karami thanked the Soviet Union for its understanding and interest in the Lebanese issue.

Karami on Christian Formula, Cabinet Boycott

NC220947 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has described the ideas that have been formulated into a draft solution by Christian leaders as a breakthrough and an indication of a readiness on the part of Christians to make specific concessions.

Responding to a question on this plan, which had been published in *AL-SAFIR* earlier, Prime Minister Karami said that agreeing to a 4-year rotation of the leading posts [president, Chamber of Deputies speaker, and prime minister] constitutes the beginning of a breakthrough. This is the first time that those parties that have clung exclusively to the presidential post have made such a proposal. This is an indication that they are making some concessions. We hope that this is a good sign that the door to comprehensive reforms to rescue Lebanon from its present painful situation will be opened.

Karami stated that he had not observed any practical proposals in the Vatican's initiative that would lead us to hope for the achievement of a first step toward a solution.

Karami reiterated his support for the tripartite agreement as a way to establish peace in Lebanon. He affirmed that security arrangements in the south must be 100 percent Lebanese. We are not responsible for the security of others. Karami also voiced his opposition to an internationalization of the Lebanese issue, for this would make the country's position, policy, and interests dependent on other states.

Prime Minister Karami made these remarks to Milhim Karam, doyen of editors. The two men also reviewed a number of professional demands. Prime Minister Karami emphasized that the boycott [of Cabinet meetings] will continue for as long as the reasons that prompted it remain valid.

Karami, Chamber of Deputies Blamed for Stagnation

NC240820 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] An Islamic Grouping source today said that Prime Minister Rashid Karami is largely responsible for the stagnant situation. The source maintained that the remainder of the responsibility should be attributed to the Chamber of Deputies and the other parties. According to this source, Prime Minister Karami, as head of the executive authority, was the first to declare the boycott [of the president], thus flinging the country into a governmental vacuum. The source asked: Will Prime Minister Karami dare to invite the Cabinet to meet so that action on the crisis may be initiated? Will he dare to hold consultations with the various parties, or arrange a meeting at any level in order to activate the administration? Will the Chamber of Deputies dare to call a session to discuss all aspects of the crisis?

Hizballah Detains Hostages; Identify Leaders

NC221333 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1145 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] According to Western diplomatic sources, the obscurity surrounding the fate of the kidnapped foreigners in West Beirut is due to the policy adopted by Hizballah with regard to everyone concerned with this issue. These same sources affirm that all the French, American, and Jewish people who have been abducted are located in one of Hizballah's centers. The sources say that Hizballah changes its name in order to mislead those who are searching for the kidnapees. Sometimes Hizballah uses the name Islamic Jihad, while at other times it calls itself the Oppressed of Earth or the Revolutionary Justice.

According to Western diplomatic sources, the Hizballah command follows a pyramid scheme in the distribution of its posts. Despite his protestations that he is not affiliated to Hizballah, the command's chairman is Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah. The second strong man is Shaykh Hasan Nasrallah, whose name continues to be kept out of the limelight. The third man is Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli, who is directly in charge of the people detained by Hizballah. Shaykh Ibrahim al-Amin is the party's official spokesman.

On the practical side, the official in charge of military affairs is 'Imad Maghniyah. *THE WASHINGTON POST* has already disclosed his involvement in blowing up the headquarters of the U.S. Marines and French paratroopers in Beirut in 1983. The paper holds France responsible in light of the fact that Maghniyah was permitted to leave French territory despite information given to Paris about his identity by U.S. intelligence.

In addition to Al-Tufayli, Mustafa Shihadah, and 'Abd al-Hadi Hamadah, he also deals with the kidnapped foreigners in their capacity as investigators.

Fadlallah's Home Fired On

NC230638 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0545 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] According to the latest security report, unidentified gunmen in a white car opened fire on the house of scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah in Bi'r al-'Abd at 0100 today. Tension currently prevails in the area and armed roadblocks have been established.

Hizballah Spokesman Comments on Strike Force

NC211338 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Hizballah spokesman Shaykh Ibrahim al-Amin has stated that the future of Muslims is in danger. Consequently, he is seeking to make the people change Lebanon's political system. In a statement to *MAGAZINE*, published today, Al-Amin said that Hizballah derives its strength from its struggle against Israel, the United States, and France. He reiterated that the pro-Iran organization is not a party to the West Beirut problem; therefore, it is a party to its solution. He affirmed that Hizballah refuses to participate in the strike force. He also said that the tripartite agreement does not concern Hizballah.

'Armed Offices' on Contact Lines

NC220810 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The Strike Force is continuing to maintain security in West Beirut. 'Ali al-Musawi, member of the Political Bureau of the Progressive Socialist Party [PASP], has emphasized the importance of the formation of a joint-party strike force. This force, he said constitutes the beginning of a national front institution and the nucleus for joint national action.

He also stated: We have begun to transfer armed offices to the contact lines. We are retaining one main office and one branch office for every organization [in West Beirut]. He noted that the PSP and Amal are coordinating daily with Hizballah. Hizballah officials, he added, have shown a positive stand toward the problem of security.

Strike Force Accused of Car Theft

NC221608 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1145 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The Amal Movement military official in charge of the Al-Raml al-Bayda' area has informed the Amal command about incidents involving members of the strike force in his sector. According to the military official, these people have stolen several cars and annoyed inhabitants.

Unidentified gunmen in Al-Awza'i' stole a green Toyota Corolla bearing license plate number 464898. The car belongs to Private 'Ali Muthlij of the 6th Brigade. In the Bi'r al-'Abd area, four gunmen stole a white Renault with license plate 352070. The car belongs to the French-Lebanese Bank and the gunmen apparently believed that there was money inside.

Birri Said Stifling From 'Political Isolation'

NC231801 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1645 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Akram Shuhayyib, a member of the Progressive Socialist Party, confirmed today that the party and the Amal Movement have been unable to control the security situation in West Beirut. He said Hizballah is an effective force that must be dealt with logically. At this point, we would like to note that during his talks in Damascus, Minister Birri asked that Shuhayyib be relieved of his duties in Beirut. However, Minister Junblatt rejected this request.

In another development, political sources close to the Amal Movement have reported that Minister Birri is now feeling the effects of his stifling political isolation inside the movement, in the Shi'ite community, and in his actions with Junblatt, who currently supports Hizballah at Amal's expense.

No Decision on Soviet Contribution

NC241242 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Foreign Ministry Secretary General Fu'ad al-Turk today conferred with Soviet charge d'affaires Yuriy Suslikov about developments in the situation in the south and the Lebanese parliamentary delegation's forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union.

The Foreign Ministry secretary general received Suslikov at 1200 today. After their 30-minute meeting, Suslikov said: Ambassador al-Turk and I discussed the question of a Soviet contribution to the expenses of UNIFIL to replace that of the United States. However, there has been no final Soviet decision on this matter so far. He added: We also discussed some issues concerning the situation in the Mediterranean and in southern Lebanon, and the Lebanese parliamentary delegation's visit to Moscow.

Soviet Envoy on Contribution to UNIFIL Expenses

NC230852 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] According to a source in the National Union Front, Soviet Charge d'Affaires Yuriy Suslikov recently met with a number of front leaders. He posed several questions pertaining to the geographic and demographic situation in the border area, the positions where UNIFIL is deployed, and the positions occupied by Israeli and Lahd forces. Suslikov expressed the Soviet Union's interest in the situation in the south, as well as Moscow's readiness to contribute to UNIFIL expenses following the renewal of its mandate.

Camille Sham'un Comments on Recent Shelling

NC221014 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in English
0900 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] President Camille Sham'un this morning called on the President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. The meeting, which lasted from 1000 till about 5 minutes ago, was attended by Dr George Sa'adah and member of parliament Jubran Tawq.

After the 1-hour meeting, President Camille Sham'un declared that discussions centered on developments after yesterday's military escalation in which over 40 localities and agglomerations were funded. President Camille Sham'un said that discussions also touched on ways to stop this blind shelling of eastern residential areas, either by negotiations or by special measures to be taken by the Lebanese Army and mainly in order to protect the villages of the Al-Matn and Kasrawan.

Asked what these measures are, Camille Sham'un replied: What else except military measures. President Camille Sham'un also said that political moves usually are taken by the president of the Republic and the government. The Army, he said, takes military measures. President Camille Sham'un also said that shelling occurs every day and in the most ferocious way.

Asked whether a cease-fire agreement can be reached, President Camille Sham'un replied: I hope so, but we all know what peace concluded with those who shell residential areas is. We recall that President Camille Sham'un said that these aggressions against peaceful residential areas must stop because it has no justification.

Further Reports on Fighting in South

Lahd, Popular Army Clash

NC211325 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Lahd militiamen created a flare-up in the situation along the Liba'-'Ayn al-Mir-Kafr Falus lines at 1200 today. They shelled positions belonging to the Popular Liberation Army's forces of martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd. The forces of martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd returned the fire and fierce fighting ensued. The Lahd militiamen expanded the area covered by their shelling at 1245. Six shells fell in Sidon. The villages east of Sidon as far as Kafr Falus came under similar shelling.

At 1310, the city of Sidon and its environs were subjected to concentrated artillery shelling. Israeli warships were also sighted off the Sidon coast. Lahd militiamen shelled the Lebanese Army barracks in Al-Salihiyah and Rafiq al-Hariri Palace at 1345. Several casualties have been reported in the Sidon area as a result of this treacherous shelling. The clashes are still continuing.

Fatah Claims 4 Israelis Killed

NC212006 Paris AFP in English 1957 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Sidon, Lebanon, March 21 (AFP) — Four Israeli soldiers and four Palestinian Guerrillas were killed early Friday in a clash on Israel's northern border, the Fatah guerrilla group said in a statement here. Fatah, the main faction of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), said the Palestinians were among a guerrilla group which tried to infiltrate northern Israel.

The guerrillas had captured four Israel soldiers as they made their way towards the Israeli border from this southern Lebanese region, the statement said. An Israeli patrol discovered them and killed four of the Palestinians in the seven-hour firefight, it added. The Israeli hostages also died.

The Palestinians were planning an attack on an Israeli Army position in the settlement of Zar'it, in the very north of Israel, said the statement which bore the stamp of the Palestine National Liberation Army-Command said. Some members of the commando escaped, it said, without giving their number.

Resistance Hits Israeli Settlement

NC220759 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Resistance fighters are continuing their attacks on enemy and militia positions in the south, particularly deep inside the occupied territory. They carried out a series of operations yesterday in Bint Jubayl, Jabal al-Rayhani, 'Aynata, Abu Qamhah, Jabal Safi, and Al-Suwaydah hill. They also attacked the settlement of Nahariyya with a number of rockets.

Sidon Casualties Reported

NC221136 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that one person has been killed and five others wounded in fighting that broke out in Sidon this morning between members of the Mustafa Sa'd Popular Liberation Army and Amal personnel. An armed state of alert now prevails in the area.

Palestinians Strengthen Positions

NC221445 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Citing informed Palestinian sources in south Lebanon, AFP has reported that 'Arafat loyalists are strengthening their positions in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah Wa Miyah camps. The report also notes that many 'Arafat supporters have returned to Tyre in recent months.

According to reports from Sidon, the probability that armed clashes will occur between local organizations and Palestinian organizations in the Sidon area is increasing. The reports add that members of the Political Council in Sidon are considering the possibility of sending a delegation to Damascus to discuss this issue, particularly now that Palestinians have reappeared with their arms in certain streets of the city, especially at night.

Army Under Fire; Tension in Sidon

NC221509 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Army positions between the old markets and Sodeco are coming under rocket fire from gunmen in West Beirut. In another development, the latest security reports indicate that there is great tension in Sidon, following the clashes that broke out today between Amal gunmen and personnel of the Popular Liberation Army. A number of the Amal Movement's wounded were transferred to the American University Hospital in Beirut.

Fierce Fighting in Sidon

NC222016 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Our correspondent in Sidon has reported that since 2100, fierce fighting between the Popular Liberation Army troops and agent Lahd militiamen has been raging along the Lib'a-Kafr Falus combat line. Artillery, machineguns, and rockets are being used in the fighting. Explosions are being heard throughout Sidon and neighboring areas.

Resistance Hits Israelis, Lahd

NC230833 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] According to a statement issued by the Lebanese National Resistance, a resistance group used automatic weapons and rockets in an attack against an Israeli enemy border guard patrol between the towns of (Rawhin) and Ramyah at dawn today. The resistance fighters destroyed two enemy vehicles and killed their occupants. The enemy immediately sent reinforcements to the area to conduct combing operations. The resistance fighters destroyed one tank belonging to this intervening force. The enemy then used its air force to drop flares on the area and to rake it with heavy-caliber machineguns.

Eyewitnesses have confirmed that more than 11 Israeli soldiers were wounded in the attack and taken by helicopter to the occupied territory. Agent Lahd's radio has admitted the operation, although it claims that only one Israeli soldier was wounded.

The Lebanese resistance squads — Amal issued a statement yesterday on the Haris-Kafra operation, which took place last Thursday morning. The statement said: The Al-Zrayriyah martyrs company of the Lebanese resistance squads set up ambushes on the Kafra-Sribbin, Sribbin-Rshaf, Dibil-Rshaf, and Abd Bayt lif-Sribbin crossroads at 0830. When a joint Israeli and agent Lahd patrol arrived at the Sribbin crossroads, it was attacked with machinegun and rocket fire. One enemy vehicle was destroyed. The enemy immediately moved its vehicles and used helicopters to rake the area with gunfire. The resistance forces then engaged the enemy with artillery and rocket fire. Another resistance group attacked the Kafra position and lent support to the forces advancing toward Haris. At 1000, enemy positions in Basil were attacked with rockets. Our forces also pounded the Kafra position with 60-mm mortar and 107-mm rocket fire at 1130. The Jabal al-Balat position was shelled at 1330, the same time that the confrontation on the Kafra-Sribbin crossroads was becoming more intense. The enemy retaliated by shelling the area. Approximately 150 artillery and mortar shells fell on the Haris and Kafra positions. Enemy helicopters also flew over this area. The enemy sustained 2 casualties and 11 Lahd army soldiers were killed or wounded. Two enemy vehicles were also destroyed. The resistance lost one fighter, martyr 'Ali Diyab, who was killed by the occupation forces after being wounded and taken captive. Three other fighters were also wounded.

Resistance Launches Rocket Attack

NC230952 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The martyr Sa'd group of the Lebanese National Resistance attacked the settlement of (Mazra'it) with 107-mm rockets at 2200 last night. An Israeli tank camp in the settlement was hit. Enemy helicopters immediately launched combing operations of the area. The enemy radio has admitted the attack.

1 Killed in Al-Nabatiyah

NC240720 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpts] At 0700 today, the Israeli occupation forces shelled Al-Nabatiyah's crowded market area. As a result, Nada Nimr Hariri was killed and 18 others were wounded. Last night five shells fell in the town's Al-Ta'mir neighborhood, causing material damage. Dayr al-Zahrani, Habbush, and Kafr Rumman also came under shellfire during the night.

Secret Nuclear Weapons Talks With USSR Reported

GF211702 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Press reports in Kuwait reported today that secret contacts and talks are currently underway between Syria and the Soviet Union pertaining to building a nuclear reactor in Syria or even to supplying Syria with nuclear bombs and warheads with the aim of attaining a genuine strategic balance with Israel.

The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* cited Western sources in Beirut close to Syria as saying that Syria and the Soviet Union made good progress in their talks with regard to providing Syria with nuclear weapons. These sources noted that Syria proposed to the Soviet Union to establish a nuclear reactor in Aleppo or to provide it with nuclear bombs in addition to Soviet nuclear strategic "Backfire" bombers or to supply it with nuclear warheads for long-range "Scud" missiles which it already possesses. Reports also indicate that it was circulated that the Syrian president visited Moscow a few weeks ago for this purpose.

Al-Asad Soviet Visit Reported

GF230702 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0635 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 Mar (WAM) — The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* today says that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad made a secret visit to the USSR last Thursday [17 March]. He was accompanied on the 24-hour visit by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and a large military delegation.

The paper quotes sources close to this issue as saying that three major issues were discussed by the Syrian and USSR leaders. The first deals with a possible war that Syria or Israel might launch and which will be intended to lead to an international conference to resolve the Middle East crisis. The paper notes that President al-Asad requested sophisticated Soviet arms in order to realize the old Syrian goal of achieving a strategic balance with the Israeli military.

The papers adds that the second issue is Damascus' relations with the PLO leadership. The third issue pertains to the Lebanese crisis and the plans proposed to resolve it.

The souurces told the newspaper that a major part of the talks centered on the situation of secret armed organizations and the acts of violence, kidnapping, and mutual assassinations among them, the most recent of which are the mutual acts of assassination between the Lebanese Communist Party and the Hizballah organization.

The paper quotes Arab sources as saying that they expect King Husayn of Jordan to visit Damascus this week.

PDRY Foreign Minister Arrives For Consultations

JN211426 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali arrived in Damascus this afternoon. On arrival, Al-Dali said that his visit to Damascus comes within the context of consultations and coordination between Syrian and PDRY officials on the good relations between the two fraternal countries and ways to promote and boost these relations in all fields.

Received By Khaddam

JN211834 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Vice Presidnet 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali this evening. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs 'Isam al-Na'ib attended the meeting. They reviewed the situation in the region and relations between the two fraternal countries.

Received By Foreign Minister

JN211821 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs 'Isam al-Na'ib received PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali at 1800 this evening. They talked about the current Arab situation and issues of mutual interest, as well as the agenda of the Arab League Council scheduled to be held in Tunis on 24 March.

Departs Damascus

JN221409 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1305 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus, 22 Mar (SANA) — PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali left Damascus today. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Foreign Minister Al-Shar' Visits Tehran

For Iranian reportage on the visit of Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' to the Islamic Republic of Iran and his meetings with Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi and President Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, see the Iran section of the 21 March South Asia *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Returns From Tehran

JN211808 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus from Tehran this afternoon following a brief visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran during which he conveyed a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i.

FRG's Strauss Begins 2-Day Visit to Damascus

LD221933 Hamburg DPA in German 1741 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Munich 22 Mar (DPA) — Early this evening, Franz Josef Strauss, the prime minister of Bavaria and chairman of the Christain Social Union [CSU], flew from Riem Airport, Munich, to Syria for a 2-day visit. The CSU leader has accepted an invitation from Hafiz al-Asad, the Syrian president, for talks with the present and members of the Syrian Government. Strauss is expected to return to Munich on Monday evening.

In an interview with *BILD AM SONNTAG* Strauss, in answering a question on whether he was undertaking a mediation role between Syria and Israel, said that he had been in contact and had conversations in good faith with both the Syrian and the Israeli Governments for some time. "The Syrians are an indispensable and irreplaceable partner in the peace process, especially for the pacification of Lebanon." Syria and Israel have legitimate interests that are in conflict with one another. The interview was prereleased to DPA.

Strauss last visited Syria in February, 1984. That visit led to clashes with the Foreign Office which felt that it had not been informed. At that time, Strauss repudiated all criticism, and stated that he did not need to have his trips sanctioned by any office in Bonn.

Received By Khaddam

JN231824 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam this evening received Franz-Josef Strauss [minister-president of Bavaria and leader of the FRG Christian Social Union], the accompanying delegation, and FRG Ambassador in Damascus Dr Herbert Woeckel. Talks revolved around the situation in the region and bilateral relations.

Explosion Prompts Al-Shar' Message to Arab League

JN201307 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has sent the following message to the Arab League secretary general:

At a time when Syria is facing Zionist and imperialist challenges and threats, which have escalated recently because of Syria's steadfast pan-Arab stand on more than one level; at a time when sincere efforts are being exerted to heal the rift and clear the Arab atmosphere; and as the Syrian leadership's efforts are receiving a clear response that provides tangible cohesion and solidarity to the Arab nation vis-a-vis the Zionist enemy's expansionist threats and ambitions, the Iraqi authorities insist on impeding and aborting these efforts and on endeavoring to escalate tension between the two countries after paving the way for this through a hysterical media campaign — a campaign in which some Iraqi officials have assailed Syria, which stands steadfast on the confrontation line against the Zionist enemy. Moreover, Iraq gave itself the right to demand Syria's expulsion from the Arab League.

At 1830 on Thursday, 13 March 1986, the Iraqi authorities detonated a booby-trapped refrigerator truck in Damascus, causing the fall of several innocent victims. Despite the fact that preliminary investigations have proved that the truck arrived from Iraq via Jordan, Syrian security authorities were eager not to announce any accusation unless after the hireling who carried out the operation has been arrested. The hireling admitted that Iraqi authorities had recruited him and entrusted him with committing this crime after securing all its tools and training him on how to use them. The confession by the aforementioned hireling, Ahmad Hasan 'Id, made during his interrogation, which is recorded in his own voice, constitutes irrefutable evidence that the Iraqi authorities are continuing their conspiracy against Syria, trying to undermine its national security and pan-Arab steadfastness.

Despite that, this heinous crime committed by the Iraqi authorities cannot harm Syria's steadfastness or the cohesion of its internal front. It does, however, constitute a violation of the Arab League charter. This crime also constitutes a treacherous stab in the back of all sincere efforts aimed at clearing the Arab atmosphere and achieving a genuine and effective Arab solidarity in confronting the great dangers posed to our Arab nation. Therefore, I am dutybound to inform you of this criminal act as well as its circumstances and serious motives.

I request that this message be circulated among the fraternal Arab countries.

Golan Druze Declare General Strike 21 Mar

TA210755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] A general strike has been proclaimed in the Golan Druze villages. The decision on this was made by the Syria supporters at a meeting held in Majdal Shams, at the end of which a demonstration was held in the village to protest the new measures imposed by the government on the Golan Druze villages. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports on this:

[Begin recording] [Dar] The decision to strike against all the services throughout the day was made at an emergency meeting held overnight in the Druze temple in the village of Majdal Shams. The attendants, supporters of Syria, explained that this action is intended to protest against the new measures taken against the local population since the prime minister's visit there 3 weeks ago. Salman Sawadi, a local resident, noted some of those measures:

[Sawadi] They started closing areas off, erecting roadblocks, and taking many to prison for no reason at all.

[Dar] Let us point out that these detentions were not made for no reason at all, as the speaker claimed. The demonstration against the prime minister was illegal and some policemen, including the commander of the Galilee District police, Assistant Commander Ya'aqov Ganot, were injured. Last night, too, at the end of the meeting, a spontaneous demonstration took place in Majdal Shams, and the demonstrators chanted slogans against the government and its new policy on the Golan. Still, the head of the Mas'adah local council, Muhsin Abu Salah, called on the authorities to avoid collective punishment.

[Abu Salah] No collective punishments should be imposed because they will not help. The roadblocks, in effect, punish the positively disposed people primarily, and no distinction is being made between positively and negatively disposed people. [end recording]

Further Details

TA230815 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 23 Mar 86 pp 1,2

[Report by Yehuda Tzur and Moti Basoq]

[Excerpt] On 21 March thousands of Druze demonstrated against the government's policy on the Druze villages in the Golan Heights.

All that day there was a full strike by the Druze residents of the Golan Heights who neither cultivated their fields nor turned up to work at the Upper Galilee factories. At the beginning of the day many students arrived at the grade schools, but their parents quickly came to take them back home from fear of retaliation by the people, supporters of Syria, who had declared the strike.

From the early morning hours thousands of Druze from the four villages began gathering in Majdal Shams and paraded through the village streets to the central square. Speeches were made by the leaders of the strike, who called on the government to cancel the policy of imposing taxes and fines that the inhabitants cannot afford. The speeches also called for the liberation of the conquered land and for an end to be put to what they call the Israeli conquest of the Golan Heights. In the course of the parade several Syrian flags were flown. Throughout the parade the police were present but did not interfere, although they did photograph the people participating in the demonstration.

"Even if we sell all our property we will not be able to pay what is being demanded of us," the leaders of the strike, who are members of the Safadi family, told our correspondent. They said that for each dunam of apples an income tax payment of about 5,000 new shekels is being demanded, while the payment for the crop reaches a total of 1,500 new shekels. The strike's leaders complain that income tax files are being opened for each person who leaves his village to work in Qiryat Shemona or the Galilee panhandle, and sums are being demanded that nobody can afford, even if his house and land is sold.

A parade against the Israeli presence in the area was also held in the village of Buq'ata. Slogans were written in Arabic on the walls of houses in the village: "The conquest of the Golan Heights will come to an end," "We will liberate the Golan," "The Zionists and their dogs will not frighten us." The villagers say that the value of the apples which were confiscated on Thursday morning during an income tax raid, which was the reason for the strike, amounts to $50,000.

Israeli sources have told our correspondent that large sums of money are arriving from Syria to support the dozens of families leading the ferment in the Golan Heights. The money passes over the Jordan River bridges into the territories, and from there it makes its way to the Golan Heights to be divided among the supporters of Syria in the area. The Druze say that on 17 April, which is Syria's independence day, a giant demonstration will be held in the Druze villages in the Golan Heights which will prove the inhabitants' determination to fight against the Israeli conquest.

MK Nasir al-Din To Visit Area

TA231904 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Demonstrations against the government's policy toward the Druze were held this afternoon in the Golan villages of Mas'adah and Buq'ata. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that the Syrian flag was carried during these marches, but the police did not intervene. Our correspondent says that the Druze initiated the demostrations following the rumor that Likud Knesset Member Amal Nasir al-Din will visit Majdal Shams to confer with Israel's supporters.

Security Forces Uncover Terrorist Squads

TA231925 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Security forces have uncovered a number of terrorist gangs in the territories and the Jerusalem area. The Israel Army spokesman said tonight that the gangs are believed responsible for a variety of attacks, including the planting of an explosive-laden car in Me'a She'arim [religious quarter of Jerusalem] and explosive charges at various locations. With more details, reporter Alan Ben-'Ami.

[Begin recording] The Army spokesman gives no indication of how many people in all have been arrested, or any personal details about them. The two gangs that were picked up in the Ramallah and Jerusalem area belong to Fatah and are said to have carried out a series of attacks and attempted attacks going back to January last year, with the planting of an explosive charge in Ramat Gan. In September last year, says the Israel Army spokesman, some of the terrorists planted an explosive charge which exploded on a bus in Bene Beraq, injuring eight passengers. Another explosive charge was placed on a No. 20 bus in Jerusalem in December this year [as heard], but no one was hurt in that incident. Other explosive charges were placed at bus stops in the French Hill neighborhood of Jerusalem at the beginning of the year and at a soldiers' hitchhiking station beside Ben-Gurion Airport in February.

One of the most potentially lethal attempts to set off explosions was in the Me'a She'arim quarter of Jerusalem last September, when the terrorists parked a car packed with explosives and gas balloons on the main street. The car bomb was successfully dismantled after the alarm was raised when the car raised suspicions. Another terrorist gang picked up in Jerusalem is said to have thrown Molotov cocktails on various occasions at cars traveling in the Neve Ya'aqov neighborhood of the city.

Security forces have also arrested gangs in Samaria accused of throwing Molotov cocktails at Israeli vehicles in Qalqilyah and beside Elon More, and they are also believed to have carried out attacks on local Arabs whom they accused of collaboration with the authorities.

Another gang belonging to Fatah has also been arrested in Jericho for acts of sabotage in the Jericho area and in attempt to place an explosive charge in Jerusalem last summer. And a Fatah terrorist living in the Jabalyah camp in the Gaza area has been arrested on the charge of knifing an Israeli in the Old City of Jerusalem earlier this month. [end recording]

Peres Doubts Progress in Husayn-Mubarak Talk

TA210848 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by Tzvi Zerahya and Eytan Rabin]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told *HA'ARETZ* last night that the Husayn-Mubarak meeting was more an exchange of information than a coordination of positions.

The prime minister expressed doubt that this meeting would bring in its wake any new political progress, and said that we must wait and see what results. "At this stage it seems to me that the Husayn-PLO position is impossible. Husayn is heading toward peace. Egypt is capable of making its own decisions. Husayn needs a Palestinian element."

Further Reportage, Commentary on Cairo Attack

Peres Expresses Confidence in Mubarak

TA211313 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres wrote to the Egyptian president that the forces who want violence will not dictate policy to Israel and Egypt. In a letter replying to a message President Mubarak sent via the tourism minister, Shim'on Peres wrote that he is convinced that President Mubarak is doing everything possible to punish those guilty of the attack against the Israelis.

In a message the tourism minister brought to Jerusalem, President Mubarak said that such criminal acts as the attack against the Israelis will not affect the peace process but will only strengthen his determination to eliminate the reasons for hostility and achieve a just agreement.

Shamir Calls For 'Act of Peace'

TA210615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir demands that Egypt take action toward changing its attitude toward Israel, and has accused the Egyptian media of showing hostility toward Israel and encouraging attacks on Israelis there. Yitzhaq Shamir said this last night at a meeting with the academic staff of the Technion, and our correspondent Haviva Roger brings excerpts from his remarks:

[Begin Shamir recording] What happened in Egypt yesterday was extremely grave. In one year, the past year, three attacks were perpetrated in Egypt against Israeli Embassy employees. Our voice, the voice of peace, appears to be falling on deaf ears, and it rings back in form of deadly bullets. We would like to see acts of peace, not only promises. We have had plenty of promises, and we are sick of these promises that are not fulfilled or honored.

On the subject of terrorism and acts of murder and the Egyptian people's attitude toward such acts, there is a special clause in the agenda of the peace talks with Egypt which we call education for peace. In this context, the Egyptians themselves have admitted that the people in Israel want peace, while the people in Egypt do not desire it so much. We say: If you and we want this situation to change at some point in the future, this administration must do something about it. [end recording]

Further on Shamir Remarks

TA210618 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who was in Haifa last night, told reporter Vivien Royston that he is worried about the safety of Israeli personnel working in Egypt.

[Begin recording] [Shamir] It is not the first time that terrorists in Egypt have attacked members of our embassy. It is the third time they are doing it, and I am worried about the security of all the other members of our embassy. I hope that the Egyptian authorities will take all the necessary measures to prevent such attacks in the future, not only words.

[Royston] How do you think it will affect the peace process?
[Shamir] Of course, it has an impact. It has an impact on public opinion, on members of government, because these attacks, and the intentions of these terrorists who are doing it, is to sabotage the peace process. And I think all the factors, all these personalities, who are interested to continue the peace process have to do their utmost in order to prevent such events. [end recording]

Cabinet Views Egyptian Ties

TA231155 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1147 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] At today's Cabinet session relations between Israel and Egypt were reviewed in light of the commercial fair there and the attack against the Israeli Embassy staff. Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir expressed appreciation for the way the Egyptian authorities dealt with matters following the murder and for the way most of the Egyptian media treated this incident.

The tourism minister, who recently returned from Cairo, conveyed to the Cabinet the condolences of the Egyptian president, its prime minister, and foreign minister, and their determination to capture the attackers.

The Cabinet also decided to authorize the agriculture minister to prepare an emergency code to restrict the use of water and its consumption. The Cabinet decided to propose to the Knesset an amendment to the law under the terms of which the general ban on the employment of women on night shifts would be canceled.

Ministers Praise Egypt

TA231732 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Report by 'Oz Frankel]

[Text] The novelty in today's weekly Cabinet meeting perhaps lay in the positive tone with which the Israeli-Egyptian relations were reviewed, despite the last act or murder. Compliments were heard today about the Egyptian authorities' conduct in the wake of attack on the Israeli Embassy workers in Cairo.

Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir who returned from Cairo said he was greatly impressed by the Egyptian handling of the affair. For instance, when he arrived at the hospital where the wounded were hospitalized he found that the Cairo governor and the Egyptian health minister had already been there.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the ministers that after the attack a presidential instruction was issued to give the Israelis special and immediate treatment.

Minister Sharir said that President Mubarak, as well as the Egyptian prime minister and foreign minister, expressed shock and sincere concern, saying that the murder was not perpetrated by Egyptian elements and that the Egyptians are interested in the continuation of the peace process. Mubarak instructed that the restrictions in the sphere of commerce and tourism between the two countries be cancelled, and Sharir expressed his belief that Israel and Egypt can reach trade agreements to the tune of $150 million. In his talks in Cairo he heard special appreciation for the position expressed by the Israeli Government and media during the recent riots in Egypt.

Foreign Minister Shamir said that the Egyptian press behaved properly: Nothing was covered up; criticism, sometimes sharp, was directed at the act of terror, although a single paper, *AL-JUMHURIYAH*, deviated from this line and published an article hostile to Israel.

In the wake of a press report Minister Ari'el Sharon asked whether Israel encouraged the Jewish lobby in Washington to stop its activity against the U.S.-Saudi arms deal. Sharon said he cannot recall a Cabinet decision on this issue, and in his opinion, Israel should lead the opposition to this deal. The prime minister replied that Israel's unchanged position is one of opposition to arms sale to our enemies and there was no hint about stopping this opposition.

Likud Minister Moshe Qatzav wanted to know why Alignment Minister Moshe Shahal was entrusted with answering a Knesset motion for the agenda concerning the Herut convention. He also wanted to know why Alignment Minister Gad Ya'aqobi was selected to answer another motion which concerned the benefits extended to settlements in the territories as opposed to the situation in development towns. Shim'on Peres refused to answer on the grounds that Qatzav's query was published earlier in the press. The prime minister said it is unacceptable that a minister should put a biting question in the press and then ask it in the government. Peres charged that Qatzav is the Cabinet minister whose actions are most partisan. Qatzav responded by saying: Instead of a matter-of-fact answer, you are ruling out the question. Peres retorted: You can then draw the appropriate conclusions. Qatzav: I drew my conclusions a long time ago.

Further Reportage on Latest Tabah Talks

Tamir: Progress, Some Differences

TA210920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The dealings on the Tabah issue went ahead as usual. The attack in Cairo did not affect either the atmosphere of the talks which directors general held in Cairo or the talks themselves. The directors general, David Kimche and Avraham Tamir, said on their return that progress was made in the latest round of talks, although differences of opinion still remain. They said that the talks would continue in Israel next week. This is what Avraham Tamir, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, told our correspondent Menahem Friedman:

[Begin recording] [Tamir] Since the Cabinet decision we have been dealing simultaneously with two matters: the arbitral compromis and the issue of bilateral relations. Progress was made in both areas.

[Friedman] Would you say that today we are nearer to formulating the arbitral compromis on Tabah?
[Tamir] I would definitely say we are near to this, although it should be understood that it is not as though one or two points of dispute do not remain. These points will either be settled at our level or they will be raised before the political echelon, which is standard procedure. [end recording]

Ministers Comment on Results

TA230550 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 23 Mar 86 pp 1,8

[Report by Benny Morris]

[Text] Israeli officials were extremely pleased with the past week's progress in bilateral relations with Egypt, but remained angered and depressed by Wednesday's terrorist attack on Israelis outside the Israel trade pavilion in the Cairo Trade Fair.

The officials, noting Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's assurances to Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir in Cairo on Thursday that Egypt would remove all curbs and restraints on bilateral trade and tourism, said that the "normalization" of relations between the two countries was already "proceeding apace."

Sharir, briefing Prime Minister Shim'on Peres on Friday morning, said that he believed that Mubarak's instructions on lifting the curbs had already reached the "executive level" of the Egyptian bureaucracy. Sharir estimated that bilateral trade could soon reach $150 million.

The head of the Israeli delegation to the Tabah and normalization talks, Avraham Tamir, the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, who also returned from Egypt on Thursday night, described the progress made last week as "beyond expectations."

Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche, who also attended the talks — which are to resume in Herzliyya later this week — said that there was still a substantial gap between the two countries' positions on the formulation of the key "question" the Tabah arbitrators are to answer. The sides have also not agreed on the identity of the other members of the arbitration panel. Kimche told Israel TV on Friday night that the two sides had so far hammered out a 25-page draft compromis, the agreed document outlining the terms of reference of the arbitration. The two sides apparently made progress regarding the nature of the access and ownership rights in Tabah for the loser in the arbitration.

Observers thought it likely that following this week's round of negotiations in Herzliyya, the directors-general would submit one or two possible draft versions of the compromis to the Inner Cabinet for political-level ratification.

Sharir, who was accompanied to Egypt by a team of tourism officials and travel agents, returned with an agreement on a number of steps, following meetings between the Israeli and Egyptian travel agents and officials. A travel agents' committee is to be set up to simplify tourism procedures (visas, travel taxes), and promote Egyptian tourism to Israel and package tourism from the U.S. and Europe to Israel and Egypt. The two sides agreed to start reciprocal tours of travel agents from both countries to facilitate tourism.

Following Wednesday's attack in Cairo, Ambassador to Egypt Moshe Sason met senior Egyptian Interior Ministry officials to request an increase in security for Israeli officials and facilities. The Egyptians reportedly agreed to the request, and are to let Israeli diplomats change the diplomatic licence plates on their cars (which Israel had previously complained potentially marked their cars for terrorist attack).

Mubarak and Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid sent letters of condolence to Israel over the weekend. Mubarak's letter to Peres expressed his "sorrow" at the attack and said such "criminal acts" would not affect the peace process, but would rather strengthen the resolve "to remove the causes of tension and violence and reinforce the desire to achieve a just and lasting peace." Peres responded that he was sure Mubarak was doing his best to apprehend and punish the terrorists, and to prevent the recurrence of such acts.

Tamir said that following the attack, Egyptian medical and security personnel had acted "promptly and efficiently." He noted that on Thursday most Egyptians he had talked to had expressed shock and anger over the attack. "We are dealing with a nation that wants peace," said Tamir.

No Progress Seen in Compromis

TA231913 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Israel will submit to the Egyptian Government a complaint about the grave case of the inflammatory article published in today's issue of the newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH*, against the Israeli Embassy. Foreign Minister Shamir believes that this article conflicts with the words of appeasement voiced recently by the Egyptian leaders, and he therefore asked Ambassador Sason to confer with Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid.

Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry sources have said that an examination of the report on the talks held by the directors-general in Cairo indicates that the differences of opinion on the Tabah arbitral compromis remain just as they were when the negotiations were first launched. Sources in the Foreign Ministry have told our correspondent that the Egyptians may even have become more intransigent.

Labor Convention To Discuss Coalition Situation

TA231801 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The Labor Party Central Committee this evening decided to suggest that the continued participation in the unity government be raised at the party convention. The proposals raised today at the party center that the unity government be disbanded because it has exhausted itself will also be discussed at the party convention. Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said at the debate that he fully supports the rotation. He believes that Labor Party must not discuss the rotation but must deal with laying down the government's guidelines for the next 2 years.

In reply to remarks made by the opponents of the rotation, whose objection is based on fear of the Likud's policy, the prime minister said: If the two large parties do not agree on their policy, the government will not be able to exist for even a single day.

Mikha'el Bar-Zohar and Efrayim Singer, the secretary of the Labor Party's Young Guard, demanded that the unity government be disbanded because they believe the Likud has already violated most of the clauses in the coalition agreement.

The Labor Party secretary suggested transferring discussion of the issue to the party convention, scheduled to meet in approximately 2 weeks. Knesset Member 'Uzi Bar'am said that if it transpires by the time of the party convention that the rotation will involve Ari'el Sharon rather than Yitzhaq Shamir, this should be regarded as a good reason to disband the unity government.

Peres Opposes Early Elections

TA232115 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres warned the Labor Party Central Committee against early elections, saying he is not afraid of the election results but rather of their price. We have begun a process of economic recovery, Shim'on Peres said, and growth should be renewed without breaking the budget framework.

He recommended to the Central Committee that the Labor Party's participation in the national unity government be continued and that rotation be carried out.

He warned, however, that if the Likud does not keep the coalition agreement the Alignment will not remain in the government for even a single day.

The Central Committee decided to transfer the decision on rotation to the Labor Party convention which will be held in 2 weeks.

IDF To Hold Mobilization Exercise 'Soon'

TA230620 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The Army spokesman has announced that the Army will be holding a mobilization exercise soon. The exercise is designed to check the efficiency of the public call-up procedures.

Several thousand reserve soldiers and vehicles will be involved. Call-up codewords will be broadcast on radio and television, and reservists are to report to their meeting places or assembly points.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Receives Brahimi Prior to Libya Visit

LD201931 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The head of state has received the prime minister on the eve of his departure for Tripoli. Mr Abdelhamid Brahimi will make an official visit to the Libyan Jamahriyah at the head of a large delegation. The foreign affairs minister is in Vienna on an official visit at the invitation of his Austrian counterpart. Their bilateral political talks started this afternoon.

Foreign Minister on U.S.-Libyan Conflict, Chad

AU240941 Vienna Domestic Service in German 0618 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Raimiund Loew report on interview given to him by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi in Vienna "last weekend, before his departure for Algiers by air" with recorded passages in French with superimposed German translation]

[Text] Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi first of all wants to express his pleasure with his first visit to Austria. Cooperation between the two countries is remarkable, he says, and Algeria has not forgotten that some political figures who are active in Austria today stood at the side of the Algerians during the Algerian liberation struggle against the French. Today Austria again adopts courageous positions regarding questions that are sensitive for Algeria, such as the Western Sahara issue, and the Middle East conflict. Regarding the most important sector of economic cooperation: Austrian firms have been working on the development of the Algerian railroad system since 1982, for which Austria has already granted a 6 billion schilling loan. A further sum of 3.5 billion schillings is to follow in the near future.

In the international arena, Algeria is primarily concerned with the problem of the Western Sahara: For over 10 years, since the Spaniards withdrew from this former colony of theirs, there has been war in the Western Sahara. Morocco claims the territory for itself and occupies it with tens of thousands of soldiers. The Polisario, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Sagui el-Hamra and Rio de Oro (Western Sahara), is waging a guerrilla war -- with Algerian support -- for an independent state for the approximately 200,000 people who live in the Sahara. The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic proclaimed by the Polisario has been recognized by the OAU as a member-county. Algeria's Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi states:

[Begin recording] We Austrians and Algerians both share the wish that reason asserts itself and Morocco at long last begins talks with the fighters of the Western Sahara. A cease-fire should be negotiated and a referendum set up. At present Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, who is the current OAU president, is trying to get Morocco and the Polisario to the negotiating table. [end recording]

As regards the escalating conflict between Libya, a neighbor of Algeria, and the United States, Foreign Minister Taleb Ibrahimi takes a categorical stance: Algeria, he says, stands at the side of the fraternal Arab country of Libya, and if the situation intensifies, it will not confine itself to mere solidarity in words. Algiers demands the withdrawal of the fleets of both superpowers from the Mediterranean.

Another topic of the Algerian-Austrian talks on international issues was the civil war in Chad. Here Algeria avoids siding with Libya, which supports the rebels fighting against the pro-Western central government in the northern part of Chad. The foreign minister states:

[Begin recording] We in Algeria are convinced that the Chadian affair is solely a matter for the Chadian people themselves. A solution must be found for national reconciliation. All foreign troops, be they African or non-African, must pull out. Under the aegis of the OAU, a meeting between the two rival presidents, Habre and Goukouni, in the capital of the People's Republic of the Congo is forthcoming. [end recording]

Algeria's position on the Middle East conflict has remained unchanged: Algeria continues to support the PLO. Without including the PLO and establishment of a Palestinian state — says Foreign Minister Taleb Ibrahimi — a peace settlement in the Middle East will never be possible.

Reportage on Visit of Tunisian Prime Minister

Arrives 22 Mar

LD221439 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Mohamed Mzali, secretary general of the Tunisian Socialist Destour Party, prime minister and minister of the interior, arrived in Algiers this morning at the head of an important delegation of Political Bureau members on a working visit to Algeria at the invitation of the FLN Party.

Mzali and his delegation were welcomed by Mohammed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and official in charge of the FLN Permanent Secretariat, accompanied by Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi member of the FLN Political Bureau and foreign minister, and Bachir Rouis, alternate member of the Political Bureau and minister of information, as well as by members of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee and the Algerian ambassador to Tunisia.

In a statement at the VIP lounge, Mzali expressed pleasure at paying this working visit to Algeria at the invitation of the FLN Party within the framework of cooperation and consultation between the two parties. He said he brings with him a message of friendship, fraternity, and admiration from President Habib Bourguiba to President Chadli Bendjedid and that during this visit he will discuss ways to improve cooperation between the two parties by virtue of their position in the forefront of those working for closer cooperation. He added that the Greater Arab Maghreb unity is dear to our hearts and that the talks in Algeria will be beneficial and will further crystalize political concepts and cooperation between the two countries.

Received by President

LD230015 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpts] At noon yesterday [22 March], Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic of Algeria, received Mohamed Mzali, Tunisian prime minister and minister of the interior, at the presidential office in Algiers and held lengthy talks with him. On this occasion Mohamed Mzali conveyed a message of friendship and appreciation from President Habib Bourguiba to the Algerian president.

President Chadli Bendjedid asked the prime minister to convey his sentiments of friendship and appreciation and his wishes for good health and long life to the Supreme Combatant, along with his wish for continued progress and prosperity for the Tunisian people.

The TAP correspondent in Algiers has learned that the talks focused on the excellent and distinguished bilateral relations between the two leaderships, the two parties and peoples and on the means for providing them with more motivation and activity in order to achieve further development in the two countries in accordance with the spirit of the concord and fraternity accord. In this context, the steps toward productive bilateral relations in various areas were reviewed.

The correspondent has learned that the talks also dealt with issues of mutual concern on the situation in the Great Arab Maghreb region and in the Arab and world arenas. In this context, it transpired again that the two countries' views were identical regarding these issues.

Concludes Visit, Departs

LD231314 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Mohamed Mzzli, the Tunisian prime minister and secretary general of the Socialist Destourian Party, left Algiers this morning following a 48-hour visit, during which he held talks with a number of FLN Party and government officials, and was received by President Chadli Bendjedid.

Mzali stated that his visit enabled him to hold very positive and frank talks on issues concerning the Greater Arab Maghreb. He noted that agreement was reached on organizing meetings on a regular basis to continue the dialogue and consultation. He expressed his optimism and hopes for the future of relations between the countries of the Arab Maghreb and the region in general, and bilateral relations in particular.

He was entrusted with a message of brotherhood and friendship from President Chadli Bendjedid to Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba renewing the determination to march forward toward better relations of a higher level. He expressed his deep satisfaction at the fraternal atmosphere which prevailed during the talks between the Algerian and Tunisian delegations. He described the talks as deep, sincere, and promising for further development in the relations between the two countries.

LIBYA

Armed Forces Division Holds Live-Ammunition Exercise

LD232332 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The Arab Libyan Armed Forces have conducted an exercise with live ammunition at the level of a division, with the participation of detachments of the armed people and conscripts. [date and place not specified] The exercise was attended by Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Arab Libyan Armed Forces, and staff officers.

Beirut Paper Cited on U.S. Mediterranean Maneuvers

LD241022 Tripoli JANA in English 0942 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Beirut, Rajab 13, March 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- The Beirut-based daily, *AL-NIDA'*, says that the ongoing U.S. Manoeuvres in the Mediterranean Sea is an integral Part of U.S. policy in the Middle East the aim of which being the imposition of Washington's will on the Arab world and the fulfillment of the doctrine which regards the countries of the Mediterranean Sea basin as one of U.S. vital interests.

It adds that USA is attempting with all means to impose its control on oil-producing countries in the region. It, at the same time, the paper continues, endeavours to make a strategic military foothold there so as to both suppress the national liberation Arab struggle and toppled the regims that it doesn't like.

USSR Diplomat Warns U.S. Against Aggression

LD231836 Tripoli JANA in English 1802 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Washington, Rajab 12, March 23, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY The first secretary of the Soviet Embassy in Washington warned the American Administration against any act of aggression or terrorism against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Damascus radio quoted the Soviet official as saying that the USSR would stand idly by [as received] but it would respond to any aggression against Jamahiriyah by American imperialism.

Jallud, Soviet Envoy Discuss International Situation

LD240721 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0710 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Mar (JANA) — The Brother Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud has received [date not specified] the Soviet ambassador to the Socialist People Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

During the meeting messages from the Libyan and Soviet leaderships were exchanged in connection with the current international situation.

Al-Qadhdhafi, King Fahd Discuss Oil Situation

LD232118 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Mar (JANA) — A telephone conversation took place this afternoon between the brother leader of the revolution and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia concerning coordination between the two countries on the sharp collapse of oil prices and the current OPEC meetings.

Views coincided on the need to take all measures likely to ensure a quick return to earlier oil prices. Agreement was also reached on the need to adopt a production ceiling to which all the OPEC member states must be committed in accordance with determined quotas. The two countries will coordinate their efforts in order to ensure these trends.

Reportage on Visit of Algerian Prime Minister

Arrives 21 March

LD211848 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1835 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 21 Mar (JANA) — Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi, the Algerian prime minister, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli this evening on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi made a statement to JANA in which he and the accompanying delegation expressed their pleasure at visiting Libya. In his statement he pointed out the great attention given by President Chadli Bendjedid since his meeting with his brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the revolution. [sentence as received] He said that this visit comes within the framework of consolidating the bilateral cooperation in various fields in the interest of the two fraternal peoples and the Great Arab Maghreb.

Joint Talks Begin

LD221331 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Abdelhamid Brahimi, candidate member of the FLN Political Bureau and prime minister, continues his official visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah which he began yesterday. Here is a recorded dispatch which we have received from our radio correspondent in Tripoli:

In an atmosphere of fraternity and solidarity, official talks began in Tripoli this morning between the Algerian delegation led by candidate member of the FLN Political Bureau and Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi, and the Libyan delegation led by Secretary of the General People's Committee Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi. The meeting began with a speech by Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud who recalled Algerian-Libyan relations and the conditions through which the Arab nation is passing. He noted the need for cohesion to face the challenges and outlined the Jamahiriyah's views and position on this matter.

Today's talks follow the contacts held at various levels between officials of Algeria and Libya in recent months. The present visit aims at finding practical methods for economic, social, and cultural cooperation between Algeria and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, which acquires its importance from the fact that it adds to the concept of cooperation and fraternity in the Arab Maghreb a historical dimension based on the peoples of the region. Experiences gained from the past, with all the positive aspects involved, are bound to provide the solid ground on which to build this cooperation and to rally the sons of the region as a force supporting the Arab nation.

It was in this spirit that this morning's talks were held firstly in camera by the two delegation chiefs, Brother Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi and Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee, following by a speech from Maj 'Abd al-Salam Jallud in the plenary session of all members of the two delegations.

This morning, the Algerian delegation visited the memorial of the martyrs of the Al-Hadi battle, where the prime minister and other members of his delegation read prayers for the souls of the martyrs before proceeding to the General People's Secretariat where the talks are taking place.

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

LD231951 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1755 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Mar (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution today received Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi, member of the FLN Political Bureau and Algerian prime minister. The meeting took place in the presence of the brother secretary of the General People's Committee.

Cooperation Meeting Minutes Signed

LD232001 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1810 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Mar (JANA) — The minutes of a meeting on joint cooperation was signed this evening between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the fraternal Democratic People's Republic of Algeria. The minutes of the meeting provide for the strengthening and expanding of joint cooperation in the economic, industrial, cultural, and information domains.

The minutes were signed by Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee, and on the Algerian side by Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi, member of the FLN Political Bureau and Algerian prime minister.

Concludes Visit, Departs

LD232121 Tripoli JANA in English 1859 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli. Rajab 12, March 23, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Algerian F.L.N. Party and prime minister, and the delegation accompanying him left Tripoli this evening after a 3 day visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Bidding them farewell at Tripoli International Airport were engineer Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee and members of the Committee and a number of officers of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces as well as heads of diplomatic mission accredited to Jamahiriyah and members of the Algerian Embassy in Tripoli.

Prime Minister Brahimi hailed the results of his visit and the delegation accompanying him to Jamahiriyah. In a statement to JANA correspondent before leaving Tripoli International Airport today, Prime Minister Brahimi said "talks with our brothers in Jamahiriyah led to positive results including agreement to set up joint projects in economic and technical fields." Prime Minister Brahimi pointed out that these projects represent an earnest step along the path of total Arab unity which we are seeking to realise.

He said "The Algerian delegation conveyed to the brother leader warm and sincere greetings from his brother Chadli Bendjedid." Also the delegation listened to directives by the leader on the need to follow up this agreement and endeavour to consolidate cooperation in various fields.

'Text' of Joint Communique

LD232216 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1855 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 23 March (JANA) — A press communique was released in Tripoli and Algiers this evening on the conclusion of the visit of Brother Adbelhamid Brahimi, member of the Political Bureau of the FLN Party and Algerian prime minister, and the delegation accompanying him. Here is the text of the communique:

Proceeding from the fraternal relations that bring together the two fraternal peoples of Libya and Algeria; given the directives given by the brother leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution, and President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria and secretary general of the FLN Party during their meeting in In Amenas on 28 January 1986 AD; and in the framework of the unionist meetings between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria, a meeting was held in Tripoli in the period 10-12 Rajah 1395 after the demise of the Prophet, corresponding to 21-23 March 1986 AD, between the brother secretary and the members of the General People's Committee of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and the prime minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria.

The meeting was opened with a speech by Brother Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud in which he stressed the objectives sought by the leaderships of both countries, namely the construction of a strong unity which would be the core for the union of the Arab Maghreb and a comprehensive union of the Arab nation. He also mentioned factors such as history, civilization, struggle, and geography which link the two fraternal peoples and entitle them to establish a union. Staff Major Jallud also discussed in his speech all issues of mutual interest between the two countries.

The two sides have expressed their satisfaction with the unity of their respective analyses and viewpoints over these issues.

All topics have been discussed at this meeting, and the two sides ahve expressed full appreciation for the executive steps taken in various fields. They have decided to establish down more programs and projects in order to give momentum to the joint action between the two countries, and realize the hopes and aspirations of the two peoples for unity and progress. The two sides have reviewed the agreements and minutes concluded between them, and have undertaken to further implement them within a fixed timetable.

'Revolutionary Forces' Liquidate 'Stray Dog'

LD240751 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0725 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Banghazi, 24 Mar (JANA) — The revolutionary forces in Banghazi destroyed the house of the stray dog, the cadaver Ahmad Hawwas. The revolutionary forces issued a statement in which they reaffirmed their resolve to pursue the stray dogs and the enemies of the masses — the enemies of the people's authority — at home and abroad, and to physically liquidate them, to destroy whatever is related to the symbols of the defunct regime, and to confiscate their properties.

MOROCCO

Hassan Proposes Meeting Between Arab Leader, Israeli

LD240834 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0759 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 24 Mar (KUNA) — Morocco's King Hassan II, in a statement published here today, has proposed that the Arab heads of state should elect one among them to meet an Israeli official at a summit level carrying only the Fez resolutions in his [the Arab head of state] briefcase. In an interview with the Kuwaiti *AL-SIYASAH*, King Hassan II pointed out that this [elected] Arab head of state will not negotiate, will not be committed to anything, and will not sign anything. His task will only be to feel the pulse, probe, and ascertain the enemy's views on the Fez summit resolutions in a direct manner. He asked: What is shameful about that if the Arab leaders elected someone and told him: Go but do not negotiate, do not be committed to anything, and do not sign anything? Just go and meet someone at the top of the Israeli leadership and carry with you in your briefcase the Fez summit resolutions that were approved by the Arab world.

Asked about a Moroccan mediation between Jordan and the PLO leadership, King Hassan II replied: Morocco is always willing to mediate, and Morocco believes that unity of rank and aim between the Palestinians and the Jordanians is fundamental to solving the Arab issue. He said that he would be meeting U.S. President Ronald Reagan in June and will "test the American credibility after asking the President: Will you uphold your promise to the Palestinians if they accept Security Council Resolution No 242?"

Regarding the Iraq-Iran War, the Moroccan king said that "there are some Arab states which are helping Iran with military ammunition while they should, at the least, stand by Iraq in their press, policy, and diplomacy. This is the minimum requirement." He expressed his belief that "the states which do not observe the joint Arab Defense Pact should leave the Arab League." He said that no one has the right to toy with the Arab League Charter and that the only freedom to be enjoyed by those who do not implement the Arab League Charter should their freedom to leave the league. Regarding the impact of the Iraq-Iran war on the situation in the Gulf states and in the Arabian Peninsula, King Hassan II said that "he still has fears for these states which to the north have the Arab-Israeli problems, to the east the Iraq-Iran war, to the south the events of Aden, and to the west the Sudanese-Sudanese and Sudanese-Ethiopian problems." He expressed fear that "the Arabian Peninsula could be transformed into strategic pockets as it is currently surrounded by a belt of problems and hot seas."

The Moroccan monarch praised the establishment of the GCC and said that the Gulf states have reached agreement among themselves and should be thanked for such a great achievement as they have given the rest of the Arab states an example of an acceptable form of cooperation.

King Hassan II said that some Arab states are bringing danger upon the Gulf states and causing incitement against them. This, he said, is alien to Arab honor and Arab nature. He added that the Arab states should not suffer from withholding favors; we Arabs belong to each other and are still brothers. He placed the responsibility for the current Arab situation on the revolutions which took place in the Arab world in the 50's and said that, in his opinion, these revolutions did not aim at changing the political form or personalities but at changing the state's spiritual and moral structure.

Regarding Spain and Portugal joining the European Common Market and the impact of this membership on Morocco, King Hassan II said that our European friends, particularly France, had undertaken during the past 3 years to maintain the trade balances between Morocco, Spain, and Portugal.

Regarding the question of the towns of Ceuta and Melilla and their recovery from Spain, the Moroccan monarch said that this issue does not need a green march but a march of determination, wisdom, and strong conviction. He expressed the hope that Spain would regain Gibraltar so that Morocco could regain Ceuta and Melilla.

SUDAN

Ethiopia Accused of Military Involvement in South

NC240838 Paris AFP in English 0835 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, March 24 (AFP) — Ethiopia is directly involved on the side of the rebels in southern Sudan, supplying logistical help and carrying out reconnaissance flights over the region, Sudanese Defence Minister Major-General 'Uthman 'Abdallah said in an interview published here Monday. He told the daily newspaper *AL-SAHAFAH* that Khartoum had lodged an official protest with the Addis Ababa authorities against the "continued penetration" of Sudanese airspace by Ethiopian military aircraft.

"Ethiopia is directly involved in military operations in south Sudan", Maj-Gen. 'Abdallah said. "Ethiopian aid to the rebel forces of Colonel John Garang is no longer restricted to financial and information help, but extended to included logistics and reconnaissance operations in the depty of south Sudan", he added.

"Any foreign interference in the south Sudan war and any attempts to escalate that conflict will lead the entire region to a disaster", Gen. Abdallah warned. He said Ethiopia's behaviour was "a flagrant and a deliberate violation committed in complete coordination with Col. Garang and his movement". "In military terms such violation is classified as direct involvement and has no other interpretations", the defence minister added. "This behaviour is a complete contradiction to the principles of good neighbourly relations and the respect of joint borders", he said. Gen. 'Abdallah denied reports that Sudan would invoke its defence pact with Egypt, adding, "we still hope Ethiopia will revise its position".

Sudan did not want to escalate the conflict between Khartoum and the rebels of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), Gen. 'Abdallah said.

Ethiopian aircraft were reported this week to have entered Sudanese airspace to take supplies and other aid to the rebels round the town of Rumbek, which the SPLM captured earlier this month. Libya, once a supporter of the SPLM, has agreed to assist Khartoum, and Col. Garang charged last week that Tupolev TU-22 bombers, apparently Libyan, had raided Rumbek.

Chairman Rejects Using Defense Accord Against Garang

JN211043 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1021 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Mar (SUNA) — In a statement to SUNA here yesterday, General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council, asserted that the joint defense agreement with Egypt cannot be used against John Garang. He said the agreement stipulates that there should be an aggression by a foreign country in order to ask for help from the other party to the agreement. He said that John Garang and his group are Sudanese in the first place.

Further Details

JN231709 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1515 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum-Addis Ababa, 23 Mar (SUNA) — While the national dialogue conference between the National Alliance delegation and the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement continued its closed sessions in Ethiopia yesterday, no statement has been issued on the daily work of these exhaustive talks — talks through which the Sudanese hope that fruitful results will be reached to stop the fighting and bleeding in southern Sudan.

The newspaper *AL-AYYAM* issued here today cited General Siwar al-Dhahab, Transitional Military Council chairman, as welcoming the current negotiations in Ethiopia and stressing that the government, with its civilian and military parts, supports these negotiations. Siwar al-Dhahab said that the government has always worked for holding a dialogue with the Garang movement and that there are high hopes that the current talks will pave the way for fruitful dialogue.

Siwar al-Dhahab reiterated that the government will not resort to the joint defense agreement with Egypt to tackle the situation in southern Sudan as this agreement was concluded for bilateral cooperation in the event of external aggression on either country.

SPLA's Garang Addresses Addis Ababa Meeting

EA212238 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 21 Mar 86

["Text" of speech by Colonel Doctor John Garang de Mabior, commander in chief of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, chairman of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement Provisional Executive Committee; at 21 March meeting between SPLA-SPLM and National Alliance for National Salvation in Addis Ababa; words in Arabic in quotation marks — recorded]

[Excerpt] A few days later after your meeting, the political parties with the TMC [Transitional Military Council], the Military Council met alone and they made very serious resolutions. These resolutions, it is necessary for this meeting to know. The joint meeting of the TMC and Council of Ministers resolved the following. This is after (?your) [words indistinct]

1: That the war in the south must be intensified to teach the SPLA a lesson it shall never forget. This is "resolution" of the TMC. So while you come here to talk about peace, the people in Khartoum are talking about intensifying the war. And if they intensify the war, of course it will be intensified. Because we have the capability, we have the means also to intensify the war. Otherwise we would have not captured Rumbek, Yirol, and there would be no these problems.

As a footnote to this war "hysteria" of the TMC, I would like to mention in passing that "at this meeting of theirs," the minister of commerce and trade dissented from this view of intensifying the war. He said: "Fellows, (?it is all over)." North and south must be two separate countries. The minister (?actually said) the war only will bring disentegration and fragmentation after great loss of lives and bitterness. "Hence, why should we wait for the (?occurrence of) lots of loss of lives and bitterness? It is better for us to be separated." The minister of commerce, he added further that after dividing the country, the [word indistinct] will be how to divide the national assets and debts between the two (?sides). These are minutes of their meeting. Well, we have said (?this) and we are not secessionists. If anybody wants to separate even the north we will fight him because the Sudan must be one.

The second resolution was that it was reaffirmed that the question of arming the northern tribes has become most urgent and of paramount importance. The armed (?natives) would fight along and side by side with the Sudan Army. These tribes would be encouraged to harass their southern neighboring tribes with the view to destabilizing and impoverishing them by destroying their properties and looting their belongings and animals, with the overall aim of eventually depopulating northern Bahr Al Gazal and Bentiu and create a buffer zone between the north and the south.

Number 3: In order to intensify the war and keep it within the south, Maridi, in western Equatoria, will be the operational headquarters for the execution of the war. So that they are going to widen Maridi airport.

Number 4: Since Egypt is taking a neutral stand, the joint military protocol signed between Sudan and Libya is to come into effect at once. Al Ubayyid [Kurdufan Region] airport shall be closed to civilian traffic. This is a resolution they made. In return for this, Sudan shall immediately stop and withhold support to the Hissein Habre government and work instead for the overthrow of that government, and to cool relations with Egypt.

Number 6: To forestall and stop any possible help from Zaire to the southern rebels, that is us, on the grounds of what the meeting called possible racial solidarity, Sudan, through (?their) friends, will encourage and arm Zairean dissidents along the common border so that Zaire becomes preoccupied with its own problems.

Number 7: The resolution said since the new president of Uganda, Yoweri Museveni, are schoolmates and friends with Dr John [Garang], General Okello will be given sanctuary in southern Sudan and their army regrouped, reorganized and re-equipped to conduct guerrilla warfare against Museveni in northern Uganda and West Nile and, thereby, forestall Museveni from assisting Garang or force Museveni to cooperate with the Sudan against both Garang and the Okellos. So Gen Okello met Siwar al-Dhahab "on 12 March."

So these are resolutions which are important, which I thought are important for the meeting to be aware of because they impinge on our meeting. What I have just done is just a sample, a sample of ideas, a sample of ideas of the real situation. This is the situation we are in. This man, a Smith, when he wants to make spears, arrows, knives and axes from a local [words indistinct] he must create the necessary objective conditions. [passage indistinct] After that you can make a spear, you can make an arrow, you can make anything you like. So if we don't understand "our talk, our [words indistinct], our problem," if we do not understand it concretely and frankly, then we are going to fail [words indistinct].

This is why I read this thing. So that we are very crystal-clear about where we are and about the solutions, how to reach those solutions. [passage indistinct] Unless we create a new Sudan, we are in for a lot of trouble. And in order to appreciate this thing, we must say things as naked as they are, whether we like it or not, because this is our reality. And this is why I have this sample [example]. There are many other examples. So, as I said before, I have quoted Dr Jazuli, [Al-Jazuli Daf'allah, Sudanese prime minister]. I have quoted brother Al-Sadiq [Al-Mahdi, Ummah Party leader]. They could still have positive roles to play in the building of a new Sudan.

I pose the question, having explored the various views, is it possible to create a new Sudan? This is a central question for this conference, whether the formation of a new Sudan is feasible and possible. We have to explore if it is possible and feasible. If the answer is in the negative, then we (?should) pack our bags and we go away. But if the answer is in the positive, is in the attainable [as heard] that we can forge a new Sudan, then what is the agenda of this new Sudan?

This is why this preliminary dialogue was called. And I leave this to you to deliberate on. And I wish you success. As for me, who will not be attending the rest of the conference, I wish to leave you assured that I believe that the Sudanese have the will and courage to throw away all this sectarianism and start building a Sudanese civilization [words indistinct] start a new Sudan. I call on you [to] let the Sudan nucleate. Let us have a nucleus. We run to the Arabs, we run to the Africans. We stand in the middle. Let us nucleate as a nation with its own specific identity, not as a satellite of other nations, some of which are even more mediocre than the Sudan. We are and we can be a great people. And we can be a great civilization in our own right. We can do this.

I would also like briefly to address issues which preoccupy some of you maybe more than the building of a new Sudan. There are (?various urgencies) here — there is the issue for a [words indistinct] cease-fire. You will discuss it, but I believe that you will get nowhere because you are the National Alliance — we are in solidarity with you, we are not fighting you, we cannot cease fire with you, because we are not fighting you [laughter]. Rather we are fighting with the Transitional Military Council. Unless you are the representatives of the TMC it would be absurd, of course, to ask for a cease-fire, because the details of the cease-fire, what is happening, on the side of the SPLA, on the side of the TMC are more known to us than to you. You do not know that on 13, on 14, on 15 [month not specified] 50 bombs were dropped on us. Is this a (?natural) atmosphere to call for a cease-fire? (?Is) this a resolution that the war must be intensified in order to teach the SPLA a lesson it will not forget? Is this an atmosphere for a cease-fire? So, a cease-fire would be out of the question until we reach a viable solution, a solution that would be (?lacking). It is not on our side, it is on the side of the TMC.

The other issue is that of the present elections. This is the program of the TMC. Maybe they are going to form — (?if) we say May 2, maybe they are forming May 3 [regimes]. The process, in our thinking, the process has been a kind of a reverse. We would have thought that a conference like this would have been first necessary, the constitutional conference, before anybody talks about going for elections.

Of course, last time we said we understand why the National Alliance is in support of elections, and we support them also because your argument is that. "Fellows," this is the only way to get rid of these generals. This is a concrete reality. (?How do you) get rid of them? We in the SPLA, we [are] armed. We can get rid of them through fighting with them. "But you are an alliance," one of your weapons could be the election. It could be a means to turn them out.

But, of course, we cannot press them because we are not, as I said before, we are not priests. We are not here to bless something that Khartoum will do and say: We have held elections. That is all, "you (?come)." No, we are not going to do this. The logical thing would have been to hold a conference, like this. If the SPLM was to be involved in elections, we would be involved in the election commission and things would go logically. But when you hold elections and then you say as Taj al-Din [Deputy Commander in Chief of Sudanese Armed Forces] is saying — he said: "We will form a national government." This is an absurdity. They are a Transitional Military Council unless the people vote for them. "They do not have the [words indistinct] voice of the government that will be formed after the elections" unless they are voted in. Otherwise they don't have a say.

But when you start to smell things like this, like the Transitional Military Council talking about a government of national unity after the elections; when you ask them: What right do they have to talk about a government of national unity after the elections? "What is (?their right)? The deputy prime minister himself, his constituency," we are there. Now is he going to contest elections in his constituency? Mr Samuel Aru [Bol, a Dinka from southern Sudan], nothing personal, of course, but it is a fact that we are sitting in his constiuency. Now, who is he, ?or where) is he going to contest?

So, the elections are ridiculous as far as the SPLM is concerned. A government that comes up will be partial and whatever constitutional authority it will have will also be partial, and we will not be bound by its constitutionality. We must make this thing clear: We must be frank because "they messed up things." Instead of agreeing, we did things in reverse. We must say in advance that "the coming government" will have traces "of May."

The issue of the future relationship between the alliance and the SPLM is very important, irrespective of the outcome. Whether you agree or disagree, I want to say that we must always keep all doors open. First of all, I pleaded with you before to remain as an alliance, remaining as an alliance and keeping doors open for real dialogue, not propaganda dialogue and window-dressing and archaic ideas about the south. Here is "people of Sonia" [Socialist Organization of Darfur], what are you going to do with them? Are we going to hold a conference in order to solve the problems of Darfur? So a national conference is necessary.

In conclusion, as I have taken too much of the time — but then I will not be talking again tomorrow, you will be, so I have taken my time for today, for tomorrow and for next tomorrow. In conclusion, I would like to say that we are confident, I am confident. Do you work, it is your duty.

If you engage in schemes to maintain the old Sudan, I want to assure this meeting that this is unfeasible. It is unworkable. The old Sudan cannot be maintained in a new form. We must devise ways and means to arrive at a new Sudan, where we all respect each other. "They do not say: This is one that carries a bucket, and this one is from the south, and this one is a villager and this is an indigenous person. Who are we? We are all indigenous people." And so that all the programs change. "Every people should have a tongue. We should not only hear the tongue of the Arabs. Where is the tongue of the Nuer?" We want to make "the tongue of the Sudan." This is our concrete reality. [applause]

I thank you very much for listening very patiently to my small talk. I say this to encourage you, because without solving these things we are talking about, then we will not solve anything. So, let us concentrate on real issues and let us not take each other for granted. Thank you very much. [applause]

Further Details

EA222030 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The first official talks to solve the internal conflict in Sudan have been in progress between the SPLM, and the Sudanese Alliance for National Salvation [NASH] since Thursday [20 March] at the Ras Hotel in Koka.

Commenting on the forthcoming election in the country, the SPLM leader, Colonel John Garang, said in a press conference he held after the opening ceremony of the meeting that any elections held without the participation of the liberation movement could only be partial and incomplete, adding that the constitution would also be incomplete. He expressed the view that the current talks would lead towards an agreement, provided both sides were frank and made their views known. Garang said the SPLM stands for the Sudanese people's unity, the country's territorial integrity, and the formation of a new Sudan. He added that the SPLM is an organization struggling for a democratic system, respect for human rights, and the solving of racial and religious conflicts. The talks between the two sides have continued today.

Revolutionary Ethiopia firmly supports peace and brotherhood in Sudan and the region so that people can work together for common development. It is, accordingly, the wish and desire of the revolutionary government that the talks between the NASH and the SPLM achieve fruitful results. Revolutionary Ethiopia will not withold its share of cooperation toward bringing about the success of this good-will effort.

TUNISIA

Mzali Returns to Algiers, Comments on Talks

LD231315 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] President Habib Bourguiba conferred this morning at the presidential palace in Carthage with the prime minister and minister of interior, Mohamed Mzali, who was accompanied by the director of the Socialist Destourian Party, Hedi Baccouche, and Beji Caid Essebsi, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister. The meeting was held in the presence of Mahmoud Belhessein, official at the presidency.

Mohamed Mzali made the following statement: [read by announcer] Immediately after our arrival in the homeland, after a stay of no longer than 24 [as heard] hours in fraternal Algeria, [words indistinct] contact the Supreme Combatant to inform him of the details of the positive talks which were held between us in our capacity as officials of the Political Bureau of the Socialist Destourian Party and brothers of the Algerian FLN. I conveyed a message of affection, appreciation and friendship to the Supreme Combatant from President Chadli Bendjedid.

Mohamed Mzali returned to Tunis from Algiers this morning. He was met at Tunis Carthage International Airport by some members of the government and the Political Bureau.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Congratulates CSSR on 17th Party Congress

EA231451 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1000 GMT23 Mar 86

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam today sent a congratulatory message to Czechoslovak Communists, the country's workers, and participants in the 17th CPCZ Congress on the occasion of its opening. Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee secretary general, Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] chairman and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, in the message he sent on behalf of the WPE Central Committee, says that the resolutions to be adopted by the 17th CPCZ Congress would affect not only the political, economic and social progress of the brotherly people of the CSSR but would make important contributions toward international peace and security, which are of great concern to all international progressive forces. Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam says that in happily expressing its solidarity, the WPE Central Committee lauds the role performed by the CPCZ within the international communist movement and its contributions toward the prosperity and equality of workers and the safeguarding of international security. He expresses the WPE Central Committee's heartfelt desire for the success of the 17th CPCZ Congress.

A high-ranking revolutionary Ethiopian delegation, led by Comrade Fikre Selassie Wodgeress, WPE Central Committee Politburo member and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers arrived in Prague yesterday to attend the 17th CPCZ Congress.

Eritrean Council Calls for End to War

GF231447 Doha QNA in Arabic 1227 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Doha, 23 Mar (QNA) — The Eritrian National Council has asserted that it accepts the principle of negotiations with Ethiopia without preconditions through a unified delegation representing all Eritrian organizations in order to reach a just solution to the Eritrian problem satisfactory to the Eritrian people and which will assert their right to self-determination.

Meanwhile, the council has passed a military plan for the unified Eritrian liberation army to confront Ethiopia's 10th military campaign, currently mobilizing 100,000 troops equipped with the most modern weapons to liquidate the Eritrian issue and restore the liberated Eritrian rural areas.

At the end of its 5-day third conference held in the liberated rural areas, the council today called on international and human organizations to quickly intervene to stop the war of extermination being staged by Ethiopia against the Eritrian people.

This was stated to QNA by Mohamed Osman Abu Bakr representative of the Eritrian Liberation Front — the unified organization — to the Gulf region. He stated that the Eritrian National Council has charged the Executive Committee, led by Osman Saleh Sabbe, to take effective measures as part of a plan to achieve Eritrian national unity. He noted that the council has decided to establish national fund to take care of the martyrs' families, improve the conditions of refugees, and convene the national conference before the end of this year.

KENYA

Foreign Minister on Sharpville Massacre Anniversary

EA211211 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1040 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Kenya's Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Elijah Mwangale has issued a statement on the occasion of the commemoration of the Sharpeville Massacre Day, today, the 21st March. This is the 26th anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre by the racist regime in South Africa of black people opposed to the regime of apartheid.

In the statement, Mr Mwangale said, though this is the 26th year since the massacres were committed on 21st March 1960 the racist regime has not halted to suppress and oppress the black community of South Africa through suppression and tension. [sentence as heard] He said the situation in South Africa still deteriorates with the black community determined to gain equality in the country and the white ruling clique bent on refusing the blacks a say in their own country.

The minister said Kenya will contine to support the valiant sons and daughters of South Africa morally, materially and diplomatically until the racist system is dismantled.

SOMALIA

PRC President Li Xiannian Arrives 21 March

LD211553 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1415 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Summary] PRC President Li Xiannian, accompanied by his wife and a high-level delegation, arrived today at Mogadishu international airport. The Chinese president was welcomed at the airport by his host, President Siad Barre of Somalia. He was given a 21-gun salute. He then inspected an honor guard mounted by the SDR Armed Forces. The Chinese president is starting an official visit to Somalia.

Talks Begin 22 March

EA221531 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Official talks between the PRC and the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] opened in Mogadishu today at 0920 behind closed doors. The talks center on international political issues and the promotion of existing bilateral relations and cooperation. The SDR president, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and the PRC president, Comrade Li Xiannian, exchanged speeches during the opening of the talks. The two leaders touched on international issues and the strengthening of various forms of cooperation between the SDR and the PRC. Both leaders expressed satisfaction at the level of their current relations, which they described as friendly.

The SDR was represented at the talks by the first and second vice presidents, respectively Lieutenant General Mohamed Ali Samantar and Hussein Kulmie Afrah; trade and industry minister, Challe Abdalla Mohamed Fadil; information and national guidance minister, Challe Mohamed Omar Jess; Foreign Minister Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre; the minister of state responsible for economic and political matters, Dr Abdullahi Ahmed Addou; deputy ministers and senior government officials.

The PRC delegation comprised Vice Premier Chen Muhua; Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Qi Huaiyuan; the deputy minister for foreign affairs responsible for the economy and trade [title only as heard]; and the assistant to the foreign minister responsible for protocol, Tang Longbin.

Briefing the press after the commencement of the talks, SDR Information Minister Challe Omar Jess, said a joint technical committee had been formed which would initially continue in the talks with a view to promoting existing economic, cultural, technical and social cooperation. The Somali side of the technical committee is headed by Foreign Minister Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre and the Chinese side by Chinese Vice Premier Chen Muhua. After completing its work the committee will report to Challe Siad Barre and Comrade Li Xiannian.

Somalia and the PRC enjoy long-standing economic, technical, cultural and social cooperation, which has existed since the sixties. The current state visit by Comrade Li Xiannian and his high-level-delegation will serve to strengthen bilateral cooperation.

Talks Held With Siad Barre

EA231633 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and the president of the PRC, Li Xiannian, today held private talks lasting 1 hour at the presidential headquarters in Mogadishu. The two heads of state discussed the strengthening of the existing friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries and other issues relating to international problems, upon which the two presidents expressed identical views. Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and Li Xiannian indicated at their meeting that they were satisfied by the level of friendship between the two countries and peoples. Challe Siad expressed gratitude for the positive role the Chinese Government was performing in development programs in Somalia.

Economic Agreements Signed

EA232152 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The official discussions taking place at the People's Hall in Mogadishu between the SDR and the PRC were formally concluded this afternoon in the presence of the presidents of the two countries, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and Mr Li Xiannian. The talks on the further strengthening of relations [words indistinct].

Following the talks, the two governments signed economic cooperation agreements comprising a grant involving the installation of piped water by the PRC in a number of towns in Somalia and a loan totalling 50 million [word indistinct] equivalent to 17 million U.S. dollars to Somalia. The agreement was signed for Somalia by the foreign minister, Challe Abdurahman Jama Barre, and for China by the deputy prime minister, Chen Muhua. Under the grant part of the agreement, the PRC will install piped water in Jibile,[word indistinct], Borama and (Shaykh) and expand the water supply in Hargeysa [words indistinct]. Under the loan part of the agreement Somalia will start repayment of the 17 million dollar interest-free loan in 1996. The Somali Government will study and plan the projects to be implemented with the loan. Under the agreement the two governments are to collaborate in implementing fishery projects in Somalia.

UGANDA

Government To Rid Nation of 'Divisive Politics'

EA221751 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The minister of health, Dr Ruhakana Rugunda, has said that the 4-year interim period of the NRM [National Resistance Movement] government is meant for eradication of divisive politics of sectarianism, intrigue, and manipulation that have bedeviled the country for the last 20 years of (?flag) independence. The minister told the meeting of Kabale NRM supporters resident in Kampala that the period will bless intensive nationwide nonpartisan political activities geared at mobilizing the people of Uganda to the politics of unity and democracy. The meeting, which was also addressed by the minister of agriculture and forestry, Mr Robert Kitariko, and that of justice and attorney general, Mr Mulenga, expressed concern at the state of economy with various special infrastructures shattered from the (?techniques) of tyrannical and diabological regimes. They appealed to the people of Uganda to give time and (?resolve) support to the NRM government in its efforts [words indistinct] problems in building (?of Uganda). They also called upon the people to identify the enemies of democracy and national unity and isolate them from infiltrating their (?different) committee right from grassroots level. The meeting recognized that Kabal District is heavily endowed with mineral wealth, especially iron ore, which is an important (?national) factor in the NRM industrialization program, whose exploitation (?was) [words indistinct] used to the establishment of the iron and steel industry as indeed enshrined in the NRM's 10 10-point program.

UNLA Officers, Men Asked To Report to NRA Units

EA221743 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The Ministry of Defense has asked the public to report any former known UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army] officer or soldier who has ignored its call to report to the nearest

NRA [National Resistance Army] unit or to any other government authority. This follows a recent ministry directive to all former UNLA officers and men who are not deployed by the NRA to report to the NRA headquarters in Republic House.

District Police Commander Calls for Arms Surrender

EA222125 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The NRM Government insists on the rule of law because it wants peace, unity, and progress in Uganda. Addressing elders at a (?big) meeting in (Nalioli) village, the district police commander, Kamuli, Mr (Gabriel Amagugu), told them to take wrong-doers to chiefs or police, who in turn will produce them before courts of law. He further urged people with illegal arms to surrender them to police or chiefs of the area and nothing will happen to them. He appealed to them to forget tribalism and political affiliations so as to build a united society.

Kenyan Weekly Cites Minister on External Debt

EA221548 Nairobi KENYA TIMES in English 22 Mar 86 p 1

[By David Musoke: "Uganda has Debt of 1 bn Shillings (as received])"

[Text] Kampala — Uganda's external debt now stands at about 1 billion U.S. dollars, a newly established government-owned English language weekly called *NEW VISION* has reported. Quoting the Uganda minister of finance, Prof Ponsiano Mulema, the weekly stated that this huge external debt did not impose big pressure on the country's economy.

Prof Mulema, formerly associate professor and head of Department of Commerce at Makerere university, told *NEW VISION* that although Uganda during deposed president Milton Obote's government borrowed heavily from the IMF to the tune of 300,000,000 U.S. dollars, it was not among the heavily indebted countries of the world. The IMF loans, which did not go for development, but financed the importation of consumer products, were currently being paid, he said. The IMF loans are short-term and cannot be rescheduled. The other loans, from the World Bank and the International Development Association (IDA) are intermediate and long term amounting to over 700,000,000 U.S. dollars. But they are generally soft loans and do not impose any constraints on Uganda, the minister told *NEW VISION*.

He added that the Uganda Government did not intend to borrow from the IMF until new terms have been associated. An IMF team was expexcted shortly in the country, though Prof Mulema said that this was a normal periodic visit of the IMF officials to member states.

On foreign assistance, he said the international community had been sympathetic to Uganda's plight and although the emergency relief and rehabilitation programme had been announced only a few days ago, there was a lot of support from donors.

Prof Mulema said that Uganda was planning to hold two donors conferences — one in Uganda and another in Paris. The local donors meeting would be with the representatives of the donor community based in Uganda. These include the World Bank, the EEC, government and other aid agencies.

He told *NEW VISION* that a package of economic policies to stabilise the exchange rate of the Uganda shilling and contain the inflationary spiral would soon be out. A full implementation of the package would help in determining the exact exchange rate of the Uganda shilling whose floating stopped and the U.S. dollar was now at fixed rate of Uganda shs. 1,470, the ruling price at the last publicised auction before Kampala fell to President Yoweri Museveni's National Resistance Army, he said.

Prof Mulema criticised Obote's economic policies which were backed by the IMF, saying that they could not correct the 15-year economic malaise that had gripped the country. Instead, he said, Obote's policies fanned inflation, retarded rehabilitation efforts and could not help improve the people's condition of living.

AFP: Bandits Attack Entebbe Meteorological Station

AB231219 Paris AFP in French 1134 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Kampala, 23 Mar (AFP) — On Saturday morning about 15 bandits attacked the Entebbe meteorological station to the south of Kampala, before they were repulsed by 5 soldiers of the National Resistance Army [NRA], the Ugandan radio announced on Sunday quoting President Yoweri Museveni who [words indistinct] after the incident.

According to the radio, the residence of a certain Mr Kirya, also in Entebbe, was also attacked but the attackers were repulsed. Ugandan radio did not state if this person was Balaki Kirya, minister of state attached to the Presidency. These events take place at a time when there is a resurgence of violence in Uganda, less than 2 months after the coming to power of Mr Museveni and the NRA.

CAMEROON

Assembly Speaker Muna Heads Delegation to Rabat

AB201644 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The speaker of the National Assembly, Honorable Solomon Tandeng Muna, is in Rabat, Morocco, at the head of a Cameroonian delegation to attend the Afro-Arab parliamentary dialogue scheduled to take place from March 21 to 23. The Cameroonian delegation is expected to participate actively in the discussions and Hon S.T. Muna is also expected to make an official statement.

CHAD

Cabinet Reshuffle Announced 23 March

AB231948 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Decree reshuffling the Chadian Government issued on 23 March in Ndjamena; read by Youssouf Sidi Sougou, secretary general of the government — live]

[Text] Decree reshuffling the government. Considering the Fundamental Act [constitution] of the Republic; considering the decree No 025PTR/SGCO-82 of 18 September 1982 on the publication of the Fundamental Act of the Republic, the president of the republic decrees the following:

Article 1. The following persons have been appointed cabinet members:

Minister of State: Djidingar Dono Ngardoum;

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation: Gouara Lassou;

Minister of Interior and Territorial Administration: Ibrahim Mahamat Etno;

Minister of Justice and Keeper of the Seal: (Nede Guedo);

Minister of Mines and Energy: (Abdel Moussato);

Minister of Public Works, Housing and Town-Planning: Moussa (Kadha);

Minister of National Education: Mahamat Senoussi (Hakia);

Minister of Finance and Data Processing:(Ngahina Rodonar Ngaroungar);

Minister of Food Security and Disaster-Hit Population: Taher Abdel-Djelil;

Minister of Animal Husbandry and Water Resources: Tahar Guinassou;

Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development: Baniara Yoyama;

Minister of Public Health: Mahamat Nour Malaye;

Minister of Tourism and Environment: (Mbayinnour Naimbaye Lossounian);

Minister of Posts and Telecommunications: Assileck Halata;

Minister of Civil Service: Routouang Yoma;

Minister of Labor, Employment and Vocational Training: Oudalbaye Nahama;

Minister of Trade and Industry: Harouna Abdoulaye;

Minister of Social Affairs and Women's Condition: Mrs (Yonatou Rongar);

Minister of Transports and Civil Aviation: Abdourhamane (Hari Abdoul);

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports: Djibril (?Idriss Yousouf);

Minister Delegate to the President in Charge of Planning: Soumaila Mahamat;

Minister Adviser to the President: (Ouanousse Moissala);

Secretary of State to the President in Charge of Information and Orientation: (Nouhounor Segue Nanouldji);

Secretary of State to the President in Charge of General Inspectorate and State Control: (Harouna Godidji);

Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation: Hamed Korom;

Secretary of State for the Interior and Territorial Administration: (Ngarba Moamba);

Secretary of State for National Education: Djimalde (?Mbailaoule);

Secretary of State for Finance and Data Processing: Ibrahim (Tahif);

Secretary of State for Food Security and Disaster-Hit Population: Kah Nadji Yamarke;

Secretary of State for Agriculture and Rural Development: Seid Bauchi;

Secretary of State for Public Health: (Siaye Tekoure);

Secretary of State for Trade and Industry: Amos Reoulengar;

Secretary General of the Government: Youssouf Sidi Sougoumi;

Deputy Secretary General of the Government: (Mbayidao Zeral Moyi);

Article 2. The Ministry of National Defense, Veterans Affairs and War Victims is now held by the president of the republic.

Article 3. The present decree, which takes effect as of the signing date, will be published in the *JOURNAL OFFICIEL* of the republic and issued where needed.

Issued in Ndjamena on 23 March 1986

[Signed] El-Hadj Hissein Habre

National Consultative Council Reshuffled

AB232103 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Decree reshuffling the Chadian National Consultative Council issued on 23 March in Ndjamena; read by Youssouf Sidi Sougou, the secretary general of the government — live]

[Text] Decree reshuffling the National Consultative Council. Considering the Fundamental Act [constitution] of the republic; considering the decree No. 025PTR/ SGCO-82 of 18 September 1982 on the publication of the Fundamental Act of the republic, the president of the republic, head of state and chairman of the Ministerial Council decrees the following:

Article 1. The following designated persons have been appointed National Consultative Council members:

Administrative Divisions:

Datha: (Mahamad Saleh Ahmad); (Mohamed Audoume Pererei);
Biltine: (Ismail Issouf); (Dahat Ahmed Terra);
Borgou-Ennedi-Tibesti: (Issa Hamid); (Saleh Adei);
Chari-Baguirmi: (Taleh Ramadan); (Mahamat Bahid Hassan);
Gorang: (Ahmed Ali M'uammar Rey); (Idriss Ourai);
Tare: (Hachir Youle); (Ali Ouderai);
Ouaddai: (Abdel Tarib Regalhat); (Ousmar Sidibi);
Lac: (Oumar Jeffa Kadjalale); (Abbakar Houre);
Logone Occidentale: (Djekoula Ndiaye de Djera Goussi); (Kalo Label);
Logone Orientale: (Mbayafdo Ahdoul Elaoudite);
Mayo Kebir: (Niadeta Ngororan); (Douga Krio Kaini);
Moyen Chari: (Goudou Simfo); (Loufa Torbel);
Kalala: (Hassan Amaphat Outlaye); (Abin Karim Hassan Haitai);
Tabiriou: (Abdoulaye Bulgat); (Arouna Damien);
Ndjamena Hospital [words indistinct] (Hadjid Lawal Mahaji).

This present decree, effective as of the signing date, shall be published in the *JOURNAL OFFICIEL* of the republic and issued where needed.

Issued in Ndjamena on 23 March, 1986

[Signed] El-Hadj Hissein Habre

Libyan Prisoners Presented in Ndjamena to Press

AB222208 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The prisoners of war of the Libyan annexationist army were presented this afternoon to the national and international press. The ceremony was held in the conference hall of the State House and was presided over by the minister delegate to the president of the republic in charge of information, Soumaila Mahamat. National Education Minister Abba Siddick was also present at the ceremony.

This was another occasion to make clear through Libyans themselves the real designs of their terrorist leader, Al-Qadhdhafi, on Chad. The truth which emerged from the replies to questions put by the newsmen is that Libyans do not agree with Al-Qadhdhafi's policy in Chad. He has been using force to recruit Libyan citizens. However, the prisoners acknowledged that they are soldiers by career, which once again underscores the massive involvement of the Libyan regular army in the fighting.

In their often contradictory, but enriching statements, the Libyan prisoners of war acknowledge that Libya is in charge of law and order in the north of Chad. On Goukouni Oueddei, they said they do not know him, adding that they take orders directly from Libyan military officers. Now listen to the recording of the ceremony which took place this afternoon. First, the minister delegate to the president in charge of information made a preliminary statement.

[Begin recording] [Mahamat] (?Ladies and gentlemen) of the press, we are presenting Libyan was prisoners to you. [passage indistinct]

[Unidentified prisoner in Arabic followed by French translation] All the Libyan people condemn the annexation of Chad.

[Unidentified journalist] [passage indistinct]

[Unidentified prisoner in Arabic followed by French translation] We have plans to follow. Under our training program we have to teach teams of seven. We were surprised when we arrived because we were not taught how to train.

CONGO

Cabinet States Budget To Be Reduced by 50 Percent

AB221735 Dakar PANA in English 1720 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Brazzaville, 22 March (ACI/PANA) — Conglese budget which was originally fixed at 417.4 billion CFA will be reduced to almost 50 percent. A brief statement issued on Friday after a cabinet meeting said that the readjustment was due to the drastic fall in the price of oil and the low exchange rate of the American dollar.

The statement added that the budget which was adopted last December also took into account the structural adjustment programme aimed at reducing public expenditure. According to Congolese information, posts and telecommunications minister, Christian Gilbert Bembet, a bill to this effect will be presented to the coming National Assembly administration session for adoption.

Public expenditure will be reduced from 331.3 billion CFA to 164.8 billion CFA, and investment expenditure from 112.6 billion CFA to 56.4 billion CFA. However, the statement said that this reduction would not affect salaries and other necessary expenditures, adding "everything was done to maintain a smooth running of the government". Congolese leader Denis Sassou-Nguesso announced the government's intention to reduce the budget on March 10 during the 6th Congress of the Congolese Revolutionary Womens Union (URFC).

ZAIRE

Former UNITA Hostages Begin To Arrive in Kinshasa

AB201420 Paris AFP in English 1345 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Lisbon, March 20 (AFP) — Philippine and British nationals kidnapped and then released by anti-government guerrillas in Angola have arrived in the Zairian capital of Kinshasa to be flown to Portugal, Lisbon's ambassador to Zaire Alvaro Guerra said Thursday.

Mr. Guerra told the Portuguese ANOP news agency that the rest of the 197 former hostages would be arriving in Kinshasa later in the day from Kapanga, near the Angolan border, where UNITA rebels opposed to Luanda's leftist government released them on Saturday. He said the freed captives, who include 94 Portuguese and 92 Filipinos, would leave the Zairian capital later Thursday aboard a Lockheed Tristar aircraft chartered by the Portuguese Foreign Ministry. The aircraft left Lisbon Thursday morning.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) earlier announced that the process of bringing the hostages from Kapanga to Kinshasa had got underway. The ICRC, which played a key role in securing the release of the hostages, said they would be turned over to their respective authorities after arriving in Lisbon.

The foreigners, who also included four Britons, two West Germans and four people of unidentified nationality, were captured on March 1 at the Andrada Diamond Mining Complex in northeast Angola by guerrillas of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). The guerrillas originally intended to march them some 2,000 km (1,200 miles) to their headquarters in the southeastern town of Jamba, but decided to take them to Zaire in view of logistical problems and an attack launched by Angolan Government troops.

Hostages Found in Shaba Area

AB221426 Paris AFP in French 1325 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 22 Mar (AFP) — Fourteen foreign hostages captured on 1 March 1986 by the UNITA (armed opposition to Luanda) in the diamond-mining town of Andrada in northeastern Angola, have been found in the Zairian town of Tshikapa, in Kasai Oriental Region, reliable sources disclosed in Kinshasa on Saturday.

The 14 people, some Filipinos and Portuguese, will be repatriated to Lisbon soon, the same source added. It will be recalled that last Thursday 196 hostages caught by UNITA were evacuated by the International Red Cross to Kapanga in Zaire's Shaba Province southwest of Tshikapa, near the Portuguese capital. [as received]

Pascal Luvualu, special envoy of Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko, said in connection with this issue that "the hostage affairs would not affect the relations of good neighborliness between Luanda and Kinshasa, after the explanations given by the Zairian Government to the Angolan authorities." According to Mr Luvualu, who was quoted by Zairian television, President Mobutu gave him "ample explanations about the issue" then concluded that it was an action being carried out by the International Red Crosss and UNITA without the knowledge of the Zairian authorities.

It is recalled at Kinshasa that the Zairian Government firmly reacted to the entry into its territoy of UNITA members who were escorting 196 hostages and ordered that they be disarmed and sent back home.

Further Details

AB221849 Paris AFP in English 1828 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 22 Mar (AFP) — In Lisbon, a Portuguese Foreign Ministry spokesman said Saturday that a group of 14 Portuguese working in Angola had fled the country into Zaire since the kidnapping. The 14, including six children, fled into Zaire's southern province of Shaba and intended to stay there with local Portuguese, he added.

The Portuguese authorities did not know exactly where they had crossed the border or where they were staying, and it was not known whether they had been among the people kidnapped by UNITA or whether they were simply leaving Zaire to avoid being abducted in their gurn. Shaba Province is well to the south of the place where the 14 Filipinos and Portuguese former hostages turned up.

BURKINA FASO

CEAO Council Meeting Ends With Communique

AB212138 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The 22d session of the Council of Ministers of the CEAO [West African Economic Community] and the 15th session of the Solidarity and Intervention Fund for the Development of the Community, FOSIDEC, ended this afternoon in Ouagadougou. Mathieu Bonkonou has the details:

The Council of Ministers meeting which opened last Monday, was chaired by Comrade Damo Justin Barro, Burkina's minister of financial rescurces and current chairman of the CEAO Council of Ministers and the FOSIDEC board of directors. Here is the press communique issued at the end of the 22d session of the CEAO Council of Ministers meeting and the 15th session of the FOSIDEC board of directors.

[Begin recording of unidentified speaker] The CEAO secretary general, after defining the framework within which the ministerial deliberations should be held, said that in this present turbulent world where selfishness is ever increasing, subregional organizations remain the only fora for the advent of a strong and viable African community. Before the solemn opening of the deliberations, the current chairman of the CEAO Council of Ministers affirmed that positive results were achieved during Burkina's term of office.

The Council of Ministers adopted the reports of the 20th and 21st ministerial council meetings and took note of the report on the activities of the secretary general for 1984 and 1985. By approving — with some amendments — the results of the 35th session of the committee of experts, the Council of Ministers showed a great interest for the alternative mechanism set up to ensure the permanent and autonomous financing of the community's activities. [end recording]

GHANA

Eighty Dissidents Recruited in Anti-Rawlings Plot

AB211832 Paris AFP in French 1736 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Accra, 21 Mar (AFP) — More than 80 Ghanaians were on board a ship of which the name is unknown and which maintained close contact with the *Nabicotor*, a tug flying the Panamanian flag and loaded with arms and amunition which was found around north of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, it was reported Thursday [20 March] by a spokesman of the Ghanaian Government.

According to the spokesman, who quoted Brazilian military sources in Rio, the group of rebels were to tranship the ammunition loaded before sailing towards the Ghanaian coast to participate in an attempt to overthrow Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, the Ghanaian president. The plot against Jerry Rawlings was discovered on Friday, it is recalled, on the occasion of the seizure on board the ship of a consignment of 6 tons of military equipment and weapons made in Argentina and which the ship was to take down to Ghana. The weapons and the ammunition were bought in Argentina by a group of Ghanaian dissidents led by one Godfrey Osei, according to the ship's captain. The captain also stated that, like the Argentina authorities, he was misled about the true intentions of Godfrey Osei who alleged during the negotiotiations that he was an official emissary of the Ghanaian defense ministry.

Godfrey Osei, 40, was many times involved in coup d'etat (?attempts) aimed at overthrowing (?the regime) of President Rawlings, it is recalled. According to Ghanaian sources, he resided in the United States where he carries out "subversive activities," in connection with foreign intelligence services. The *Nabicotor*'s crew — 10 seamen of Argentine nationality, eight North Americans commanded by one John Dee Early — have confessed to the Brazilian investigators that they are mercenaries recruited in the United States by a group of Ghanaian opponents.

On its part, Radio Accra recently blamed the BBC and the Voice of America for the "biased" way those radios accounted for the episode, therefore, showing the close collaboration existing between the intelligence services and the Western countries' press.

Possible Expulsion of Crew

AB211837 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The 18 American and Argentine crew of the ship seized carrying arms and ammunition bound for Ghana, might be expelled from Brazil. In an interview, the Brazilian police director, Mr Romey said keeping the men in prison in Brazil will not be the best solution. He said they are still investigating but if the 18 crew members are found guilty, it will be best to expell them. Following a trip off by the Ghana ambassador to Brazil, the vessel which was transporting arms and ammunition bought by Ghanaian dissidents, was seized by the Brazilian authorities. The arms were intended to be used to destabilize the Ghana revolution.

Government Prepares Program To Equip Air Force

AB220822 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The government has drawn up a 10-year program to rehabilitate and equip the Ghana Air Force. This was announced by the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] member responsible for defense, Alhaji Idrissu, when he addressed officers and men of the Air Force in Accra. He said the government's priority in this program would be the initial purchase of aircraft and the training of Air Force personnel. Alhaji Idrissu stated that public corporations which were expected to bring in revenue but have failed to do so are to blame for the government's inability to service the military and other infrastructure promptly. He said the PNDC would have by now made greater success in its economic recovery effort, but for the greed of those who seek office only to enrich themselves at the expense of the poor taxpayer. Alhaji Idrissu asked soldiers to take good care of the aircraft and other equipment they have since they were imported with hard-earned foreign exchange.

LIBERIA

Eleven Public Corporations To Be Privatized

AB231745 Paris AFP in English 1623 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Monrovia, March 23 (AFP) — Eleven Liberian public corporations are to be "wholly or partially" privatized in the "interest of the Liberian nation and its people", a government communique said here Sunday [23 March] following the passing of a bill by the legislature.

They include the corporations responsible for electricity supply, telecommunications, water and sewarage, oil refining, public transport in Monrovia and the National Port Authority.

The other state-owned bodies affected are the Liberia Produce Marketing Corporation, Air Liberia, Hotel Africa, the Ducor Hotel and the Mesurado Group of Companies.

The government is inviting all interested individual and businessmen at home and abroad to submit applications to the bureau of state enterprises, the communique from State House, the president's office, said.

It said government found it expedient to privatize these public corporations to improve their "productivity, efficiency and to enable them to contribute meaningfully to the overall economic development of the country."

The communique said government hoped all Liberians and "our partners in progress would take advantage of this opportunity."

Ten Opposition Legislators Resign From Party

AB221111 Paris AFP in English 0735 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Monrovia, March 22 (AFP) — Two senators and eight representatives of the opposition Liberia Action Party (LAP) have resigned from the party in response to an ultimatum by its Executive Committee to quit parliament or be expelled from party ranks.

The committee accused them of contravening the party's decision to boycott the legislature in protest against alleged fraud in the October 15 national polls which declared President Samuel Doe the winner, with his National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL) obtaining 72 seats.

In a statement read at a press conference here Thursday [20 March], the ten legislators, including LAP's controversial former chairman Senator Tuan Wreh, said they were forced to resign by the ultimatum. They said they had accepted their seats in the "supreme interest of national peace and harmony. "We are not prepared to forfeit our seats, because we were genuinely elected," they added. To resign from the legislature was "contemptous betrayal of the people we represent and tantamount to denying us a voice in the legisiature", they said. They denied LAP charges that they were given "allotted seats" in the legislature by the Special Elections Commission, which supervised the October poll. "We campaigned hard and won our seats," they said. They would now become "independent opposition in the legislature and have no intention to cross the carpet to join the ruling NDPL"

The opposition Unity Party, which gave a similar ultimatum to its members who accepted legislative seats or positions in government to resign by March 12, said it had expelled John Lansana, Ruth Perry and Abdul Kiawo for failing to meet the deadline.

In a related development, Justice Minister Jenkins Scott described as "irresponsible" anonymous leaflets circulating here calling for the resignation of President Doe and key officials, including the ministers of justice, defence and internal affairs, as well as the chief of staff of the army and the president pro-tempore of the senate. Mr Scott said he had "security information" that Secretary-General Peter Bonner Jallah of the "grand coalition" of the three opposition parties had authored the leaflets, and that he and his "cohorts are bent on plunging Liberia into chaos and confusion" by the resignation call.

Opposition Coalition Calls For Reelections

AB212223 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The grand coalition formed recently by three opposition parties in Liberia, has been addressing itself to current political issues in the country. The leaders of the three parties constituting the coalition, speaking at a press conference in Monrovia today, called for reelections in Liberia. The statement was read by the vice chairman of the coalition, Jackson F. Doe of the Liberia Action Party, LAP.

[Begin Doe recording] It was because of our total lack of confidence in the credibility of SECOM [Special Election Commission] that we objected to the results announced by Mr Harmon [SECOM chairman]. Mr Harmon and his colleagues did not have the common courtesy to look into questions raised in our joint statement, in spite of his own admission of fraud and irregularities in the elections. Instead, he went ahead to declare the results. Members of the press, with the exception of God's power, no power is greater than the people's power. Let me repeat, with the exception of God's power, no power is greater than the people's power. But the power of the people can only be expressed through unity. It is ironic too that individuals who were once chieftains or champions of the people's cause are now the principal suppressors of the people.

In the words of Abraham Lincoln: you can fool some of the people all of the time, all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time. Unquote. [end recording]

Later, before the three opposition leaders answered questions from reporters today, Jackson F. Doe said they were calling off their planned meeting because they do not want to defy the law. Here now is the vice chairman:

[Begin Doe recording] For the mass rally, (?we could have carried out) but in the interest of our people and in the interest of all of us, this rally has been called off. As all of you here know, we are law-abiding people. If the writ had not been served, we would've decided to continue the rally but the fact that the writ was served, we do not want to defy the court. This is why we called off the rally. [end recording]

Thai Delegation Arrives To Explore Possible Links

AB212156 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] An 11-man delegation from the Kingdom of Thailand is currently in Liberia to discuss the possibility of establishing bilateral, economic, and trade links with the government and business establishments in the country. According to the head of the delegation, Sub-Lieutenant Prappas [Limpabhandu], deputy foreign minister, their visit was in line with discussions held between the Thai foreign minister and former Liberian foreign minister, T. Ernest Eastman in New York last September. The delegation is composed of representatives from the Thai Ministries of Commerce and Economic Planning as well as the Thai Rice Development Corporation and the private sector.

Commission Will Probe Student Violence Outbreak

AB201940 Paris AFP in English 1505 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Monrovia, March 20 (AFP) — A nine-member commission of (?Inquiry) has been appointed by President Samuel Doe to investigate Tuesday's riot by thousands of public school students, according to an Information Ministry statement released on late Wednesday.

The commission, which will recommend means to prevent recurrences of disorder, is headed by university professor Namuh Manley with Roman Catholic Bishop Michael Francis as co-chairman. Other members include teachers, politicians and police. The commission has been given wide powers of subpoena and inspection and told to report back to the cabinet within two weeks, the (?ministry statement) added. A senate commission is also investigating the riots.

The ministry also said that last Tuesday's student rampage left 25 soldiers hospitalised and caused damage running into thousands of dollars to public and private property.

NIGER

Libyan Delegation Arrives, Cooperation Discussed

AB201946 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] A Libyan delegation led by Colonel (Abdel-Fehri Libi) arrived this morning in Agadez where it was welcomed by Lieutenant Colonel (Bagni Mehdou) the prefect of the district. The Libyan delegation and the Niger authorities held a working session aimed at strengthening the fraternal and good-neighborly relations existing between Libya and neighboring countries. The meeting was also aimed at demarcating the borders inherited from colonial times and those according to the Charter of the Organization of African Unity.

Delegation Ends Visit, Departs

AB230739 Niamey Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The working session between the Libyan and Niger delegations, which began last Thursday, ended yesterday at Agadez. The Libyan delegation, led by Colonel (Abdel-Fehri Libi), left Agadez yesterday afternoon for home. The closing ceremony of the meeting took place in the presence of the prefect of Agadez, Lieutenant Colonel (Bagni Mehdou).

NIGERIA

Military Chief Receives DPRK Foreign Minister

AB210750 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The chief of General Staff, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, has stressed the need for increased cooperation between North Korea and Nigeria. He said areas that could be developed were agriculture, river basins, fishing, and shipping. Commodore Ukiwe said though the two countries were developing nations, Nigeria could still benefit from North Korean experience especially in the shipping industry.

The chief of General Staff, who was speaking when the North Korean foreign minister, Mr Kim Yong-nam, paid him a courtesy call today, also suggested the expansion of trade between the two countries. In a speech, Mr Kim called for intensification of the South-South dialogue.

Support for Korean Unification Pledged

AB201952 Dakar PANA in English 1746 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Lagos, 20 March (NAN/PANA) — Nigeria has reiterated its support for the re-unification of North and South Korea.

At a dinner in Lagos last night in honour of the visiting vice premier and foreign minister of North Korea, Mr Kim Yong-nam, Nigeria's minister of external affairs, Prof Bolaji Akinyemi, expressed Nigeria's continued support for any effort aimed at easing tension and building greater confidence on the government and peoples of Korean Peninsula.

Prof Akinyemi said that the elimination of the "obnoxious system of apartheid in South Africa" and the establishment of a new international economic order were of concern to both Nigeria and North Korea. The failure so far to establish a new system of international economic and monetary relations in place of the existing system "that has weighted against the true interest of developing countries" was directly attributable to the lack of resolve and political will on the part of the developing nations, the minister said. He expressed the belief that the time had come for greater commitment to the possibilities that exist for cooperation on a South-South dimension.

Replying, Mr Kim expressed the same desire for greater South-South cooperation. He is expected to leave Lagos for Dakar tomorrow.

Nigeria established diplomatic relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in 1976.

Ebitu Ukiwe Receives Benin, Togo Ministers

AB210810 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] A joint message from the presidents of the Republic of Benin and Republic of Togo was received today by the chief of General Staff, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, on behalf of President Ibrahim Babangida. The message was brought by the foreign ministers of the two countries. Commodore Ukiwe said that if agreements reached between Nigeria and her neighbors were followed, problems of theft, smuggling, and other antisocial activities would be reduced.

The Togolese foreign minister, Mr Koffi Amega, said that without security there will be no development and expressed the two countries' appreciation to Nigeria for reopening her land borders. The envoy called for a ministerial conference to ratify the December 1984 agreement entered into by the countries concerned.

SAO TOME & PRINCIPE

Political Opposition Announces Coalition Formed

AB210842 Paris AFP in English 0737 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Lisbon, March 21 (AFP) — Two Sao Tome and Principe political movements said here Thursday [20 March] they had formed a Democratic Coalition of Opposition (CDO) to fight for "honest" general elections in the West African former Portuguese colony.

They are the National Resistance Front and the Democratic and Independent Union. They accused the one-party regime in power since independence in 1975 of being totalitarian, and said they accepted "recourse to armed struggle to free the people from their chains."

SENEGAL

Diouf Returns, Reports on FRG, Austria Visits

AB212246 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The head of state, President Abdou Diouf, returned to Dakar this afternoon from a trip which took him successively to Austria and the FRG. He was welcomed by members of government, the president of the Economic and Social Council, and deputies and members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Dakar. Speaking to the press, President Abdou Diouf stated that he was satisfied with the outcome of his trip.

[Begin Diouf recording] In fact, I paid a state visit to Austria and a working visit to the FRG. The two visits went well and were held under good conditions. The authorities whom I met — heads of state and government or prime ministers, government officials, ministers, and leaders of the various provinces of Austria and the FRG — received me with much kindness, open-mindeness, and willingness. And one can clearly see that Senegal's image is high in these two countries.

As you have said, our discussions were divided into two parts. The first part was devoted to the strengthening of bilateral cooperation and the consolidation of friendship existing between Senegal and Austria on one hand, and Senegal and the FRG on the other. Obviously, this part was the simplest side — the easiest side. The competent ministers accompanying me noticed the excellence of the relations we maintain with these two friendly countries. Obviously, during the second part of our discussions, I wore the hat of the OAU chairmanship and I touched on the major problems of our continent, especially as it was on the eve of the special session — which comes on within a few weeks — the special UN session on Africa's difficult economic situation. I made my listeners aware of the importance Africa attaches to this conference and of the need to prerpare it well, both by Africans and their partners and the international community. I must say with great satisfaction that I discovered that my listeners were already well informed. They are very much aware of these problems, very willing to help us, and very desirous to attend this special session in order to enable us to draw the maximum benefit from it — not only immediate benefits, but lasting benefits that may lead to the recovery and the improvement of Africa's economy.

As you can imagine, I also touched on the other political issues. Political problems in Africa are quite numerous. The problems of Chad and the problems of Western Sahara. We also discussed the problems of southern Africa — of course — the problems of South Africa and Namibia. On these topics also, my listeners and I shared the same views on the essential points, that is to say, on the aims and objectives to be attained concerning the independence of Namibia and the eradication of apartheid in the shortest possible time. Of course, we cannot have the same views on the methods to be used in order to attain these objectives. However, these views were nearer each other during the discussions we held during the visit, and I am hopeful that if all the African heads of state and not only the current chairman of the OAU, have the habit of touching on all these cardinal problems with much frankness and seriousness during their discussions with our partners in the international community, especially the countries of the North, I am sure we can manage to change a lot of things. .. but as you know, in politics, things do not change easily.

In all, it was a fruitful trip. Of course, as you can see, it was long and quite tiresome — physically — because we visited two countries. We had a break between our visits to Austria and the FRG, but (?this did not reduce our responsibilities at home and we have to return home). It was necessary, because, if it were not so, we would have spent more time there whereas there were other duties awaiting us in Senegal — there are other African international tasks awaiting us. [end recording]

N. Korean Foreign Minister Arrives on Visit

AB220945 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Kim Yong-nam, DPRK vice premier and foreign minister, arrived in our capital last night. He was welcomed on arrival by his Senegalese courterpart, Ibrahima Fall, and the minister of urban planning and housing, Alioune Diagne Coumba Aita. Other personalities present at the airport included the Soviet ambassador to Senegal. Speaking to Tidiane Barry, the minister spoke about the purpose of his visit.

[Begin Kim recording in Korean followed by French translation] The friendly relations of cooperation existing between our two peoples have been developing excellently for a long time now. Our two countries are independent, sovereign and members of the Nonaligned Movement. Senegal has an important role to play since it has assumed the OAU chairmanship, and it attaches much importance to her friendship and cooperation with our country. The purpose of our visit is to further develop and strengthen the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation existing between our two countries. [end recording]

Received By Counterpart

AB230938 Dakar Domestic service in French 2000 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs was today the guest of honor at a dinner hosted by his Senegalese counterpart, Ibrahima Fall. Present at the dinner were Alioune Diagne Coumba Aita, minister of housing, Famara Ibrahim Sagna, minister of rural development, members of parliament as well as the dean of the diplomatic corps. In the toast proposed on this occasion, the Senegalese foreign minister indicated that this visit marked an important stage.

[Begin Fall recording] Your visit, Mr Vice Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs, in fact, marks an important stage in the strengthening and broadening of the friendly relations which have always characterized the cooperation between Senegal and the DPRK.

The fruitful discussions that we have had since your arrival in Senegal yesterday enables us to envisage with optimism the future of this bilateral cooperation. I am convinced that with the determination and political will which animate us, the dynamic and multi-dimensional cooperation that we are building could serve as example for another common consideration which is of particular importance to us, namely South-South cooperation. [end recording]

In his response, the head of the North Korean diplomacy, Kim Yong-nam, underscored the good relations existing between Korea and our country in spite of the distance between them.

[Begin Kim recording in Korean followed by French translation] Even though Korea and Senegal are situated on two different continents — Asia and Africa — our two peoples are closely linked by our common history and the similarity of the prevailing situations in our countries. [end recording]

ANGOLA

'Text' of Dos Santos Message to UN Head

MB221259 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Message from Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, to Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary general, "recently" and "adopted in New York as an official document of the United Nations"]

[Text] Your Excellency: The Angolan people have been tenaciously opposing the occupation of our national territory in the south of the country by the armed forces of the Pretoria regime. The defense against the systematic acts of aggression carried out by these forces has been the cause of considerable additional military expenses, enormous military losses, as well as losses in human life to the People's Republic of Angola.

The direct military intervention by the South African Armed Forces is complemented by the subversive actions mounted by Angolan traitors who are organized, (?led) and supported by the South African Government both in military logistics, as well as financially, politically, and diplomatically with the aim of imposing by use of force political changes in a sovereign state which is a member of the United Nations. I am referring to the ill-reputed group called UNITA which in the past supported the Portuguese colonialist forces in the fight against the people's movement for national liberation and which has been today transformed into an instrument of destabilization of the People's Republic of Angola in the hands of racist South Africa.

This is a serious situation which has been further worsened by the intervention in Angola's internal affairs, (?which has assumed) a greater and more dangerous dimension following the invitation, with the complicity of the Reagan administration, of Jonas Savimbi, the head of this group, to visit the United States. This action by the U.S. Government has deeply angered the Angolan people because it not only reveals a great interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state, a member of the United Nations, but also shows the open hostility and a direct involvement of the United States on the side of Pretoria regime [words indistinct] destabilization acts of aggression that the racist regime will continue to perpetrate against the People's Republic of Angola, thus continuing the destruction of economic and social infrastructures, the kidnappings of foreigners, the indiscriminate and barbarous acts of massacre of peaceful citizens, and other acts of terrorism which are condemned by the international community, such as the one which recently took place in the municipalities of Camabatela, Gamba, Andrada and [word indistinct] where over 300 [word indistinct] lost their lives. We are today experiencing a flagrant violation of the norms of international law which govern relations between states and the principles enshrined in the UN Charter, of which the People's Republic of Angola, South Africa, and the United States are all members. We would like your excellency to see these laws are respected.

The Government of the People's Republic of Angola, desirous to continue in search of a peaceful and negotiable solution for the southern African problems and in an attempt to facilitate the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435/78, proposed during your excellency's visit to the People's Republic of Angola in August 1983 the conditions for the gradual withdrawal of the Cuban contingent in Angola, conditions which were thereafter [words indistinct] for concrete actions through a platform for a general peace agreement [words indistinct] Angola and Namibia [words indistinct] transmitted to your excellency in December 1984. Side by side and within the framework of demonstration, the political goodwill expressed in the platform, a delegation from the People's Republic of Angola held talks with a delegation from the United States on one side and with the South Africans themselves on the other. Thus, in January 1984, [words indistinct] signed by a U.S. official and Angolan official in which steps to be followed in the future are established, namely the disengagement of the South African forces from Angola, the halting of acts of aggression against Angola and of support for UNITA, the cessation of hostilities between South Africa and the Namibian guerrillas and the [word indistinct] of the date for the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 and the announcement of the gradual withdrawal of the Cuban forces from Angola.

In this context, [words indistinct] situation of southern Cunene by the South African Armed Forces, a first step for the creation of concrete conditions for the beginning of the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 [words indistinct] all the mechanisms for the supervision of the implementation of the UN resolution. Unfortunately and despite the (?effort and goodwill) demonstrated by the Angolan Government, none of the taken decisions was carried out in full, that is the cessation of acts of aggression by the South African Armed Forces against Angola, the cessation of support for the UNITA armed gangsters or the accord for cease-fire between SWAPO and South Africa.

The [word indistinct] and abstract indication of a date for the implementation of Resolution 435 cannot be considered as sufficient inasmuch as it does not indicate the sequence of the complementary steps and since it remains conditional on the previous (?demand) for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola [words indistinct]. As a matter of fact, the Angolan Government has presented a package of concrete proposals which were sent to your excellency in November 1984 and through these documents, we declared and announced the form in which the gradual withdrawal of internationalist Cuban troops would be accomplished, thus conforming to the [word indsitinct].

Also in a meeting with a delegation of the United States (?led) by Chester Crocker, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, in January 1986, the Angolan delegation reiterated the desire to continue talks on the basis of constructive proposals. However, in contrast to the desire and flexibility which has always been demonstrated by the Angola side [word indistinct], the Reagan administration not only repealed the Clark Amendment which prohibited the rendering of assistance to the Angolan puppets in the pay of South Africa, UNITA, but also engaged itself openly in rendering military, [word indistinct] and other kind of support to further worsen the situation and increase our people's suffering.

In the face of all these actions mentioned above, we conclude that the present U.S. Administration is not impartial and is not seriously engaged in the negotiations to contribute, as we are doing, in search of [word indistinct] and peaceful solution for the southern African problems. What is more, the U.S. Administration has included the Angolan problems in the so-called regional conflicts between East and West to delay the ongoing revolution in Namibia and prolong the apartheid system. By openly supporting UNITA and South Africa in the aggression against Angola, it has jeopardized its neutrality as mediator. As a conclusion and taking into account that the issue for the decolonization of Namibia [words indistinct] that the United Nations have charged on its secretary general, the Angolan Government [words indistinct] the mandate to your excellency within the framework of the United Nations the responsibility to conduct the negotiations for a speedy implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 for the independence of Namibia and for the security and peace in the region.

In this way, the Angolan Government requests your excellency to undertake all the necessary efforts. As for the security of Angola, the moral and material responsibility for the worsening of the military situation and the disastrous consequences of the war fall on those who support violence by promising military, financial, and other kind of support to the aggressive regime of apartheid and its complementary forces, which are the UNITA puppets. Our desire is to achieve a just and lasting peace which will satisfy both the interests and concerns of the Angolan people and the interests of the colonized people of Namibia through the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435/78.

In this context, the Angolan Government reiterates its readiness to continue to undertake diplomatic efforts with a view to honestly contributing to the indpendence of Namibia and the restoration of a lasting climate of peace in southern Africa without endangering the hard-won sovereignty and independence of the Angolan people.

However, the Angolan Government will not abdicate (?from its right) [words indistinct] of the nations, nor will it [word indistinct] its responsibility to defend its people and its achievements. Accordingly, if the acts of aggression against its territory worsen, it will not hesitate to solicit assistance from the international community, particularly from its allies.

The Angola Government would like to inform your excellency that part of the Angolan Province of Cuando Cubango is still occupied and over 10 battalions are concentrated near Cunene Province in violation of the Lusaka accords.

In this way and in the face of these indications of [word indistinct] in the worsening of the situation, the Angolan Government is convinced that your excellency will spare no effort to try to examine as we are doing and with us, solutions that may safeguard peace in this year, which the United Nations dedicated as an international year of peace. We reiterate to your excellency the greatest and most cooperation possible in the (?negotiation) process that will lead Namibia to independence within the framework of the UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 [words indistinct] and respect for the integrity and sovereignty of the People's Republic of Angola.

Accept, your excellency, my highest regards.

[Signed] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola.

LESOTHO

Chairman Lekhanya, Information Minister Interviewed

MB191018 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Video interview with Major General J.M. Lekhanya, chairman of the Lesotho Military Council, and Vincent Malebo, minister of information, by Cliff Saunders on the "Network" program; presented by John Bishop — live]

[Excerpts] [Bishop] Two months after ousting the Jonathan regime, Lesotho's new leaders are fully entrenched in power. Cliff Saunders has just spent a week in Maseru assessing the situation.

[Begin video] [Saunders] Lesotho, a country with a new leader, a nation seeking a new lease on life. We have had the opportunity of speaking to the leader under discussion, Major General Metsing Lekhanya, chairman of the Military Council, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and a man who has been in power in Lesotho for the past few months. General, how do you judge the mood of the people here in Lesotho? You know, previously, businessmen and tourists to Lesotho claimed that there seemed to have been some unfriendliness, some hostility, in the country. Well, things seem to have changed. What are the reasons for this?

[Lekhanya] The people of Lesotho themselves have never really been hostile to foreign businessmen and even to tourists, and I think the official attitude might have been something else. But I think you and I should concentrate on the future. As you said, in the street, I feel people are quite happy.

[Saunders] Your government has indicated that there was a severe loss of discipline in the country. The youth brigade was running wild, and so on. How did this come about, and what are you doing to restore discipline?

[Lekhanya] There were quite a number of youth brigands issued with weapons, and that contributed to a lot of vandalism. But my government is going to address itself to it. We are continuing to disarm them. We have disarmed them and have recovered quite a number of arms and ammunition, and any act of murder and robbery will be taken care of by the law and by the authorities.

[Saunders] Do you intend restoring strict discipline to the country?

[Lekhanya] Yes, indeed. Sort of a military discipline. I would like to enforce the strictest discipline to our youths, to make them the better people for the future.

[Saunders] General, turning to the ANC issue, the previous Jonathan government gave South Africa firm reassurances that the ANC was not operating out of Lesotho. You have given South Africa similar reassurances. What makes yours more credible than those of the Jonathan government?

[Lekhanya] Well, let us face it, I am convinced that the previous government lied on many issues, indeed on many things, including the presence and the numbers of the cadres of the ANC. But my colleagues and I do not intend to continue our relations with South Africa in that fashion, and it is up to South Africa to believe us because we are very sincere.

[Saunders] Do you feel that you have sufficient control over the country, sufficient knowledge of what is happening in the country, so that there can be no future attacks by the ANC out of Lesotho into South Africa?

[Lekhanya] We are going to strengthen our security in having to control everything. We have to know everything. We must be in control, to make sure that there is no recurrence of things that happened during the previous administration.

[Saunders] Gen Lekhanya, sanctions. What is your government's attitude towards the sanctions campaign against South Africa?

[Lekhanya] Sanctions would affect most of us and even, for that matter, countries like Lesotho would suffer most, because once we have sanctions we are directly affected immediately. Then I hope moves of doing away with apartheid to preempt sanctions, then there will be no need for anybody advocating sanctions [sentence as heard].

[Saunders] The improvement in relations between South Africa and Lesotho is obviously regarded as beneficial by both countries. On the other hand, it could have negative implications for Lesotho. Mr Vincent Malebo, how do you feel about charges that South Africa has in effect bullied Lesotho into subservience and into submission?

[Malebo] It is important to realize that in various international fora, Lesotho's vote is equal to any other country's vote. If people think that Lesotho has been bullied and therefore it will not exercise its right to do what it wishes to do, then they are terribly mistaken. We would like to feel that now that there is a change and now that the relations between Lesotho and her only neighbor have been returned to normal, then Lesotho will be allowed to exercise her rights as a sovereign independent state. Lesotho will be allowed to choose its own friends, even if it will not choose the neighbor. There can be no question of this country being subservient to any other country.

[Saunders] In the light of what you have said, how do you see your main task as minister of information?

[Malebo] I would not like to use the ministry of information as a post office where you pass through messages to foreign countries, especially about things which you think you do not like. Secondly, the thing that I would not like to do is to use this ministry to single out indviduals for lashing, to insult people on the radio, to insult people in the papers. This, too, I do not want to do. This nation for nearly 20 years has been without peace. It has had people who did not know quite what they were doing, simply because they were being forced into a situation where they have got to be warring all the time, instead of working. We would like to help through this ministry, to send the message of peace, the message of reconciliation. We would like to send messages which will help this country to develop, we would like to send messages which are going to assist the country in getting on with thebusiness of feeding the people of educating the people, of ensuring that people are healthy. [end video]

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Condemns Recruitment of Youths in Streets

MB191801 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] In Maputo this afternoon, President Samora Machel stressed that the army must forge cadres for the economic sectors. Speaking during the debate on the report of the National Coordinating Council of the Mozambique Youth Organizaion, which was presented to the second conference of the organization, the Mozambican head of state said that priority in military conscription should be given to youths with higher education so as to ensure a transition from military art to military science. The best must join the army, the army does not need mediocre people, he stressed.

The supreme leader of the Mozambican revolution said that Law No 4 of 1978 on the duration of compulsory military service may be reviewed, and stressed that the 2-year military service was established for a time of peace and is not appropriate to the present war sitaution. President Samora Machel condemned the arbitrary recruitment of the youths in the streets for military service. He pointed out that such raids pave the way for enemy maneuvers in our midst.

Renamo Claims Cuamba Captured, 311 Troops Killed

LD211844 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1800 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] According to a communique issued in Lisbon, Renamo, the Mozambican rebel movement, claims to have taken and occupied the city and barracks of Cuamba. According to Renamo 259 government troops, 41 Tanzanian troops, 9 North Korean, and 2 Cuban military advisers were killed in action. Cuamba, formerly Nova Freixo, in the northern Province of Niassa, is the rail and road junction for the Provinces of Nampula, Zambezia, and Niassa with Malawi.

NAMIBIA

Schools To Be Opened to All Races 'in Principle'

MB201714 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1639 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Windhoek, March 20, SAPA — The SWA/Namibia transitional cabinet has decided in principle that schools and educational institutions in the territory should be opened to all races, the minister of national education, Mr Andrew Matjila, said in Windhoek today.

He told a news conference that he foresaw January next year as a date for implementing the new policy.

The only outstanding issue was the control and management structure of the new education dispensation which was linked to proposals for the demarcation of administrative regions or provinces in SWA/Namibia.

"The control and management of education will be in accordance with a system of government which will be based on a constitutional arrangement which is presently under discussion by a select committee of the National Assembly as a matter of utmost urgency," Mr Maujila said.

He expected the select committee would complete its work in about four weeks and submit a report to the SWA/Namibian transitional government. The final proposals would be referred to the SWA/Namibian Constitutional Council to be considered for incorporation in the constitution.

At present, schools and teacher training colleges are functions of the second-tier ethnic authorities, established in terms of Proclamation AG 8, except those authorities who have transferred their education function to the central government.

The administration for whites in SWA/Namibia has retained control of its education function and admission to its schools is restricted to whites.

Mr Matjila said the new dispensation would "automatically" remove the provisions of Proclamation AG 8, which has been a subject of political controversy in SWA/Namibia.

SOUTH AFRICA

Mkhuseli Jack Unbanned by Court Order

MB221134 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Mkhuseli Jack has been unbanned. The 5-year banning on the Port Elizabeth Youth Congress and boycott organizer has been lifted after action in the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court. Mike Loewe reports:

[Loewe] The banning order was lifted on Mr Jack this morning by Justice van Rensburg in his chambers. This followed an urgent application brought by the Port Elizabeth Legal Resources Center.

[Legal resources center spokesman] The Legal Resources Center brought an application on behalf of Mr Mkhuseli Jack to decree the restrictions order placed on him invalid and of no force or effect. We also planned to effect the application [words indistinct] by the court.

P.W. Botha Says West Should 'Rethink' Sanctions

MB241040 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1034 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 24, SAPA — If the real object of sanctions was to encourage revolutionary change, Western leaders would have to seriously rethink their role in this "unwarranted campaign" against South Africa, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said today.

Speaking at the third world congress of Brahman breeders here, he said there were a number of "interesting ironies" to recent calls for sanctions. They were no longer coming only from the ranks of the communist and Eastern-bloc, or Third World, countries. If it were only these countries who called for sanctions, it could have been explained away as ideologically founded. It could also have been labelled as window-dressing by countries that did not really intend, or who were not in a position, to impose punitive economic measures against South Africa.

"Today both the calls for economic sanctions, and the actual imposition of such sanctions, comes mainly from the ranks of Western countries. This is the first irony."

The second irony lay in the real object and questioning of the timing of these calls for economic sanctions.

"The apparent motivation for foreign economic pressure against South Africa is presented as an attempt to coerce this country into applying reformist policies. It is said to be done to aid the underprivileged and the powerless in South Africa. But this uncalled-for intervention in our domestic affairs comes at the very time when we are in the most dramatic phase of fundamental reform in this country's history.

"There must therefore be something sinister in both the motivation and the timing of calls for economic sanctions against us, particularly from Western countries."

The third irony lay in the possible effects of economic sanctions. Those actions would be mainly to the detriment of the underprivileged and the poor, and therefore mainly the blacks of this country.

Ultimately, economic sanctions would have nearly the opposite effect from that which was envisaged, if the motivation was to be believed. Sanctions would weaken the poor and hamper the process of reform. This would encourage violence and revolutionary change.

"If this is the real object of the attempts to impose economic sanctions against South Africa, Western leaders will have to seriously rethink their role in this unwarranted campaign against us," said Mr Botha.

He also said that South Africa was perceived to be one of the world's major trouble spots. Those who were interested in facts knew that this perception was false. South Africa, like some other countries in history, was caught up in a concerted effort to kill the truth and manipulate reality.

"We share this situation with all the countries of the free world. But, because of our unique circumstances, we have to carry a major burden in this regard. We shall do so, despite the unparalleled campaign against the sovereignty of our country, and against the people of this land, and despite the hypocrisy with which we must cope."

South Africa was a civilised country, believing in civilised norms and values, and upheld human dignity, life and liberty.

"We believe in a democratic system of government. We believe in the sovereignty of the law as the basis for the protection of the fundamental rights of individuals and groups. The extent to which these values are upheld in practice in this country is relatively unique on this continent.

"We dare not, and we shall not, turn our backs on our centuries-old heritage in this regard, to surrender to the forces of leftist revolutionary chaos. We are not fooled by the pretence of those who seek our downfall."

As a highly developed and industrialised nation, South Africa had a responsibility to all its communities.

"We must continue with reform to broaden the base of our democracy. We must continue with the development of our first world economy and at the same time uplift those who still form part of our third world economy."

South Africa wished to take up its responsibilities at home and in the rest of Africa. But for too long it had been caught in the crossfire of the international struggle between the power blocs of the world.

"The result was that this country had in many areas been deliberately isolated from the rest of Africa. This is unfortunate and unnecessary. We have the ability to play a major role in Africa. Most African leaders themselves admit this," said Mr Botha.

Deputy Minister on Commitment To End Discrimination

MB192009 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] The deputy minister of constitutional development said the South African Government is committed to the removal of discrimination. Deputy Minister Piet Badenhorst has said in the colored parliament that it is not necessary to appoint a select committee to investigate the repeal of all discriminatory legislation, because the government agreed that discrimination should be done away with.

Mr Badenhorst said a large measure of success has already been achieved through changes applied. But MP Peter Mopp, who suggested the select committee, had criticized Mr Badenhorst and called for the government to introduce changes quickly. The motion has been passed unanimously by the colored house.

Wentzel: No Immediate Increase in Bread Price

MB241044 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1042 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Cape Town, March 24, SAPA — There is to be no immediate increase in the price of bread, the minister of agricultural economics and water affairs, Mr Greyling Wentzel, said in a statement here today.

He said that despite the cut in the bread subsidy from R220 million in 1985/86 to R150 million in the coming financial year, it would be possible as a result of funds made available by the wheat board to "avoid an increase in the price of bread for the present".

"It remains the government's aim to keep the price of bread as low as possible especially during this time of unfavourable economic conditions which are imposing a heavy burden on the less privileged of the population in particular."

It had to be remembered, however, that the phasing out of the bread subsidy was in keeping with the government's initiative to grant more direct assistance to that section of the polulation suffering physical hunger.

"Under the present economic conditions in which we have to contend with unemployment and physical hunger, the government is giving careful attention to all possible measures which could help to keep the price of bread as low as possible," Mr Wentzel said.

Even at its unsubsidised cost, South African bread was still markedly cheaper than that of the countries from which the wheat was to be imported. The price of an 350g loaf in the USA was equivalent to R1.22, and in the United Kingdom and France 88 cents and R2.37 respectively. At present the consumer in the republic was paying only 70 and 50 cents respectively for white and brown bread.

Agreement Reached on Extending Debt Repayment

MB211925 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] South Africa and its creditor banks have reached agreement on a plan to extend repayments on South Africa's foreign debt. Banking sources say a refinancing package drawn up last month by former Swiss banker Fritz Leutwiler will proceed now that both sides have resolved certain sticking points. South Africa last September declared a unilateral moratorium on repayments of about $14 billion of foreign debt. Many of the creditor banks have agreed to accept South Africa's offer to pay nearly all $500 million involved in the freeze in mid-April. Under Mr Leutwiler's original proposals, the payments would have been spread over four quarters.

Survey Shows Port Elizabeth Stayaway Effective

MB220740 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The results of a wide-ranging survey of yesterday's stayaway in Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage has shown that most African workers and a large number of colored workers heeded the COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] call. The results were compiled by an industrial relations research group known as the Labor Monitoring Group. More from Mike Loewe:

[Loewe] Ninety four companies employing a total of 33,000 workers were surveyed. Researchers found that 99 percent of Africna workers employed in all sectors stayed away while 83 percent of colored workers in Uitenhage and 23 percent in Port Elizabeth did not go to work. Most of the colored workers who stayed away were employed in manufacture. I spoke to UPE [University of Port Elizabeth] researcher, Dr Val Weerden:

[Begin recording] [Loewe] Dr Weerden, what do you think the figures reflect?

[Weerden] A large percentage of our black workers stayed away in response to the call by COSATU. Over 99 percent in most of the cases. Where the colored workers were organized by COSATU, there was a large stayaway, but where they were not organized by COSATU, the stayaway was markedly less effective.

[Loewe] Last year almost no colored workers joined a similar stayaway. [end recording]

University of Witwatersrand Students Stone Police

MB211430 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1426 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 21, SAPA — Tension ran high on the campus of the University of the Witwatersrand today as students stoned a police patrol outside the campus and boycotted classes in commemoration of the Sharpeville and Langa police shootings.

About 2000 students attended a mass meeting, called by the Black Students Society, on the University's lawns instead of going to classes.

An alleged police informer was attacked by members of the volatile crowd, an eyewitness said. Student organisers and university security intervened and led the person to safety.

After the meeting a crowd of students marched through the streets of Braamfontein, where the university is situated, chanting slogans and singing freedom songs. Police monitored the events but maintained a low profile, the eyewitness said. No arrests were reported.

Several Arrested in Duncan Village After 'Swoop'

MB211438 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Police have arrested a number of people in East London's Duncan Village, and Franz Kruger reports the arrests are in connection with the murder this week of the Transkei's representative in the city.

[Kruger] A police liaison officer confirmed the early morning arrests today but would not say how many people are being held. However, residents say they had seen large numbers of people being loaded into police buses pursuant to a police and army swoop. Among those held are believed to executive members of the Duncan Village Residents Association.

The police liaison officer confirmed the police action was part of investigations into the murder a few days ago of J.J. Matoti, a Duncan Village representative of Transkei's former president, Kaiser Matanzima. Meanwhile, the police unrest report says 13 houses in Futo Village, outside East London, were burned down last night. The report said a man and a girl died in the fires.

Durban Demonstrators Released From Custody

MB211425 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Here is a report from Carmel Rickard in Durban:

[Rickard] Police say they have arrested a total of 118 people in today's lunch time demonstration; 53 of these were under 18 and were released after being warned they will be charged. The remaining 63 were charged with attending an illegal gathering. They have been released and given the option of paying a 20 rand admission of guilt fine or go into court.

One of those loaded into a van by police was *DAILY NEWS* reporter Paul Hartz. He was taking photos of the incident when a policeman tried to stop him and pushed him into the van. Mr Hartz says the policeman sprayed teargas into his face as he was put into the van where several dozen other people were already crouched.

Police say they do not deny using teargas in the van, but claim it was because those inside were singing freedom songs.

Three Reportedly Killed During Ratanda Stayaway

MB241205 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1203 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 24, SAPA — Three people are reported to have been killed in Ratanda, near Heidelberg, since a work stayaway was called at the weekend in protest at the shooting of a middle-aged woman and the detention of two leaders.

And, in the nearby Vaal Triangle townships, there was a confused response to the call for a two-day stayaway, with workers initially supporting the call but then boarding buses much later than usual.

In Ratanda, alleged vigilantes hunting for United Democratic Front supporters last night killed Mr Mandla Magavi in a sheeben, a spokesman for the Ratanda Civic Association (RCA) claimed.

This morning two people who were not observing the stayaway and were walking to their transport were hit by stray bullets and were believed to be dead, the spokesman said. He was unable to identify the victims.

The RCA spokesman said that, after these deaths, it seemed as though no one from the township would go to work today.

Trouble erupted in Ratanda with the distribution of pamphlets criticising the local caretaker community councillors for carrying guns, being insured for R45,000 each by the government, and acting as a new batch of "puppets" after the resignation of the original council.

According to a source, a youth who was distributing pamphlets was confronted by a policeman who confiscated the leaflets. Shortly afterwards police allegedly arrested Mr Zachuis Machitje, president of the RCA, and Mr Mzwakhe Ndebele, an executive member of the Ratanda Students Congress.

The police were then stoned and allegedly responded by opening fire. A woman who, according to the source had nothing to do with the incident, was shot in the thigh.

The call then went out for a work stayaway for as long as Mr Machitje and others remained in custody. If their detention should extend beyond the school holidays, pupils will continue the boycott of calsses which began in the first term.

In the Vaal Triangle there was confusion this morning after last week's stayaway call.

Pamphlets calling on workers not to report for work were distributed in Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Evaton, Bophelong, Boipatong and Zamdela yesterday.

Earlier, a meeting attended by more than 2000 resolved on the stayaway to protest about several issues, including the jailing of people arrested for rent arrears. Residents, initially reluctant to board buses, did so enthusiastically at about 7.30 am and, by 8 am, public transport was flowing freely to town.

Residents said they had heard of the stayaway call but, as a Sharpeville worker put it: "When I checked this morning I saw taxis and buses operating and people going to work, so I went back home and got ready for work."

There was a limited police presence in the area this morning. A Vaal Transport Corporation spokesman said that services were operating normally although it was too early to judge whether the number of passengers was normal.

A police spokesman in Pretoria said he knew nothing of the Vaal staway and the three deaths in Ratanda. "The matter will be looked into," he added.

Police Fire Teargas at Port Elizabeth Vigil

MB231126 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] A number of people have been injured at a church in Port Elizabeth, KwaZakhele Township, allegedly after police fired teargas through the windows while a vigil was in progress. In reaction to the event, the Progressive Federal Party is to ask a question in Parliament. Mike Loewe has more on the story:

[Loewe] According to the Black Sash, hundreds of resients were packed into the Congregational Church attending a vigil for an unrest victim when the teargas canisters came crashing through the windows. In the ensuing chaos people scrambled over chairs to get to the single exit point in the church while others dived through window panes, gashing themselves badly.

[Begin July Chalmers, head of the East Cape Black Sash recording] Inside the church there was glass all over the floor. There was blood on the floor, there was blood on the windows, there were teargas canisters scattered all over the floor. [words indistinct] the people [words indistinct] were injured. The ones who were more badly hurt have gone to hospital and we are hoping to get statements from them about this event. [end recording]

[Loewe] Meanwhile, an East Cape police spokesman has responded saying it is not police policy to fire teargas into churches.

Explosions Damage University, Power Stations

MB220530 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Damage estimated at around 1 million rands was caused by a petrol bomb or bombs on the campus of the University of Natal last night. The police say the ensuing fire destroyed 23 offices, including 10 offices in the Department of Computer Science.

Our Durban news staff reports that six fire engines were sent to the scene about 10.45 pm last night, and the fire was extinguished after half an hour.

In another incident in Durban last night four limpet mines exploded at the Chamberlain substation in the Jacobs suburb, and there was a brief power failure. The extent of the damage is not yet known. On 9 January a limpet mine exploded at the same substation killing a police officer, Colonel Robert Wellman. Col Wellman was investigating an earlier explosion from the limpet mine which exploded. Sergeant Rudi van der Merwe, who was injured in the explosion, is still being treated in the Wentworth Hospital in Durban.

No one was injured in the two incidents last night which are being investigated by the police.

Krugersdorp Convent Petrol Bombed; No Injuries

MB240709 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0704 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 24, SAPA — A convent in Krugersdorp Township of Kagiso was petrol bombed early today.

One of three missiles thrown crashed through the window of a bedroom where one of the three resident sisters was sleeping, setting the curtains alight, said Sister Bernard of the Convent of Our Lady. The blaze was put out without anyone being hurt.

Sister Bernard is president of the Federation of Transvaal Women. She said the attack had occurred at about 1am and none of the sisters had seen those responsible.

The bombing came two days after the government's announcement that Krugersdorp's township, Munsieville, would not be removed despite demands from thousands of whites.

Two KwaZulu Police Killed in Mahlabathini

MB211845 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1700 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Two KwaZulu policemen and a passenger were shot dead during an ambush on a bus at the Mahlabathini District last night. The police answered the fire of an unknown group of armed assailants, but were overpowered and shot dead. Their bodies were mutilated.

Police Disperse March by UWC Students

MB212012 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2009 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 21, SAPA — An emotional candle-lighting ceremony in rememberance of those who died in unrest and political violence ended an exuberant Sharpeville commemoration attended by more than 500 students at the University of the Western Cape [UWC] today.

Earlier in the day hundreds of students gathered at the campus and held an hour-long placard demonstration calling for the release of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

Police boke up a morning march of about 500 pupils from Cape Flats High Schools as they moved to join fellow pupils and students at the Sharpeville commemoration.

Witnesses said the pupils had been carrying "release Mandela" placards and police confirmed SAP sjambokked pupils on their way to the university. The witnesses said the pupils had scattered and many had run on to the UWC campus.

A police liaison officer for the Western Province, Lt Attie Laubscher, said the pupils had refused to obey an order to disperse and that police had not entered the grounds.

Pupils in the Bonteheuwel area held mass meetings and left school at about 11am. Many schools held normal classes, but pupils at other schools in the Cape Peninsula either held awareness programmes or did not report for classes.

The UWC commemoration was organised by the Azanian Students Organisation and attended by representatives of at least 10 anti-apartheid organisations, including the UDF [United Democratic Front].

Speakers said the 26th anniversary of Sharpeville was not a day of mourning "but a day to remember that we have to carry on the struggle."

With the ANC flag draped over the speakers table, the UWC chaplain, the Rev Colin Jones, said he rejected an allegation by the Labour Party leader, the Rev Allan Hendrickse, that UWC was a "nest of Marxists."

He asked members of organisations to light their candles from a central candle "which commemorates those who gave their lives at Sharpeville, before and after, as a sign of ongoing hope, and the courage that we draw from this fire, our fire."

Police Shoot Petrol Bomb in Port Elizabeth

MB212024 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2022 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, March 21, SAPA — Police said they shot and hit a petrol bomb which a man was poised to throw at a police vehicle in Moterwell, Port Elizabeth, early today.

A 25-year-old man was found in a toilet nearby and was arrested in connection with the incident, Lt-Col Gerrie van Rooyen, liaison officer for the SAP in the eastern Cape, said. He said 34 petrol bombs were hurled at police vehicles in 19 incidents last night.

Tear smoke — and in some cases birdshot — were used 21 times by security forces in the black townships of Port Elizabeth today to disperse crowds up to 1000, he said.

"In most cases the crowds gathered while stopping vehicles demanded to be driven to Uitenhage," he said.

He confirmed that tearsmoke had been used at Langa, Uitenhage this morning while people were mounting buses on their way to attend the memorial service in the Jabavu stadium, KwaNobuhle.

Several road blocks had also been set up by the security forces in townships near Port Elizabeth and the surrounding areas today to search vehicles for petrol bombs and weapons.

"This action was necessary because as recently as Wednesday night somebody fired on a police vehicle with a firearm from a crowd," said Col van Rooyen.

Professor's Home Firebombed, Research Destroyed

MB220525 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2011 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, March 22, SAPA — The home and university offices of one of South Africa's most prominent political scientists, Professor Lawrence Schlemmer, have been firebombed, Johannesburg Sunday newspapers reported today.

The attacks destroyed years of research of the professors and other academics and caused at least R1-million damage to the Durban campus of Natal University.

Prof Schlemmer said that 30 years work had gone up in flames. "My entire professional collection has been destroyed. All the work done by my department and I might as well not have existed," he said.

On Thursday night a fire swept through the professor's study at his Durban home.

Last night four separate fires broke out in two wings of the university. Police are investigating the possibility of arson and the possibility that some of the university's fire-fighting equipment had been sabotaged.

Prof Schlemmer said that the work he was doing on a combined KwaZulu-Natal legislature might have been the reason for the attacks as the words "no indaba" were painted on the scorched corridor wall outsider the professor's office at the university. The professor was closely associated with the Buthelezi commission which was studying constitutional options for Natal.

Five fire engines were sent to the blaze on campus. One fire broke out at the back of the memorial tower building, which was recently declared a national monument. The fire was first seen in two classrooms of the Shepstone building. Security were forced to seal off the university and police moved into the area to begin investigations which are still continuing.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 21 Mar

MB211757 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1753 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 21, SAPA — Following is the police situation report on unrest today to 7pm:

"The bodies of seven black men were found by police this morning at New Crossroads, outside Cape Town. The bodies were apparently all axed to death and police are investigating the murder.

"A private home and two private vehicles were set alight in the same area.

"A crowd of black people who gathered outside the University of the Western Cape in Cape Town today were dispersed by police with sjamboks.

"Stones were thrown at police vehicles at Seeisonville, near Kroonstad today. One black man was wounded and arrested by police in the incident. A bread delivery vehicle in Seeisoville was also robbed.

"At Soweto, a delivery vehicle was set alight by arsonists and a bread delivery vehicle was robbed.

"At New Brighton township, near Port Elizabeth, two black men were arrested after a petrol bomb attack on police vehicles.

"Near Carolina, in the eastern Transvaal, five black men and three black women were arrested by police during an ilelgal gatheirng.

"In the south western districts, near Oudtshoorn, two coloured men and one coloured woman were arrested after an illegal gathering.

"At Durban, 118 were arrested by police after an illegal meeting. Of those arrested, 55 were under the age of 18. These 55 people were warned and immediatly released. A total of 63 people — all over the age of 18 — are still being held."

End report.

Early 22 Mar

MB220719 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0707 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 22, SAPA — The 7am unrest report as supplied by the SA Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:

Port Natala, Durban, damage estimated about R1 million was done at Durban University, when according to information received by the police, it was petrol bombed. 23 offices in two different wings had been damaged.

"Four explosions took place at a substation in Chamberlain Street, Bluff, Durban. The explosion is being investigated by the police. The Chamberlain Street substation is where Colonel Robert Welman was injured and subsequently died last year.

"In Kwamashu, two private vehicles had been set alight by arsonists.

"Eastern Province. At Uitenhage, a white woman was grabbed by a few blacks. They cut her hair and threatened her with rape. She however managed to escape her attackers.

"In KwaZakhele a liquor store was petrol bombed and SAP vehicles were also petrol bombed. One black male was wounded and arrested by the police.

"At Adelaide, a black woman was burnt to death with a tyre around the neck and the burnt out body of a black male was also found by the police.

"In Dennilton, a black male was arrested after stonethrowing incidents at a delivery vehicle.

"In Kimberley, at Galeshiwe, two black males were injured when a mob set fire to a private home and threw stones at private vehicles. Eight black males were arrested in Atteridgeville when they were caught holding a people's court.

"Vosloosrus. A private vehicle has been set alight and buses were attacked by stonethrowers.

"In Blue Water a black woman was burnt to death when a private home was set alight.

"In Pretoria, two black males were arrested on charges of intimidation."

Ends report.

Late 22 Mar

MB230539 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1708 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 22, SAPA — Here follows the unrest report up to 7pm issued by the South African Police's Public Relations Division in Pretoria.

"In Adelaide, in the Eastern Province, the SAP has arrested eight black males, between 16 and 26 years of age, plus one black female, 40, for murder. This follows the murder of a black female who was burnt to death and found with a tyre around her.

"At Bogweni, near Cookhouse, two shops were set alight and considerable damage was done to them.

"A black ESCOM [Electricity Supply Commission] worker was wounded near Fort Beaufort when shots were fired from a nearby black township.

"A black male, over 18, was arrested at Walmer after a stone throwing attack on the SAP.

"In the Western Province two coloured males were arrested in Bishop Lavis by the SAP after a stone throwing incident at a SAP member's private home.

"In Boguletu, near Oudtshoorn, a black male, over 18 was arrested following a stone throwing incident.

"At Bluewaters near East London, 57 black males were arrested after an illegal meeting.

"Near KaNyamazane, in the eastern Transvaal, a black male was shot to death, and another was arrested in a petrol bomb attack on an SAP vehicle."

Report ends.

Early 23 Mar

MB230656 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0649 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 23, SAPA — Following is the SA Police 8am unrest situation report:

"In Soweto, WWR [Witwatersrand], various incidents happened yesterday and last night where delivery vehicles were looted.

"In KwaZakhele, estimated damage of R200,000 was done when a liquor store was set alight by arsonists.

"In Walmer petrol bombs were thrown at a liquor store, a member of the Development Board's house and a private home. The SAP wounded and arrested a black male in one of these incidents.

"In Zwide, a liquor store was set alight.

"At Mohlakeng near Wesselsbron a bus was set alight. Damage R100,000. Stones had been thrown at a private home.

"In Atteridgeville near Pretoria, a member of the SAP's private home was petrol bombed."

Ends report.

Late 23 Mar

MB240630 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1727 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, Mar 23, SAPA — The following is the unrest report as issued by the Directorate of Police Public Relations in Pretoria today:

"Freight valued at R10,000 was robbed from a delivery vehicle in Soweto this afternoon and a private home was petrol bombed, with damage estimated at R10,000.

"In the Eastern Province in KwaZakhele near Port Elizabeth the Tsume Primary School was petrol bombed. Minimum damage was caused.

"On the East Rand a light explosion took place in Jubilee Street, Alberton. Slight damage was done to a car. The police are investigating."

Early 24 Mar

MB240632 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0611 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 24, SAPA — Following is the SA Police 8am unrest situation report:

"The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight.

"At the black residential area Blouwater in the border area the SAP used tear smoke and rifles to disperse a mob which gathered illegally. No injuries were reported.

"At Dennilton in KwaNdebele two policemen were on their way to the police station. They were stopped by a mob and one of the policemen was dragged away. The other policemen managed to escape. The kidnapped policeman's body was later found in Dennilton.

"At Galeshewe near Kimberley, three residents were injured when a private dwelling was put on fire. In another incident a private dwelling was damaged by a petrol-bomb.

"At Atteridgeville near Pretoria a private dwelling was slightly damaged by a petrol-bomb.

"At Qukatole near Aliwal North the SAP used a round of birdshot to disperse a mob that gathered illegally. No injuries were reported."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report]

Black Sash President Interviewed

Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 19 March reports on page 2 that Mary Burton, the new president of the Black Sash, has said the organization will " 'keep on working to try to bring about changes that really are steps towards justice rather than towards less repressive control.' " Burton said the means of protest were shifting from actions within the law to civil disobedience, but the group did remain committed to nonviolence. She added that " 'a social-welfareist attitude is not sufficient in a country where we have so much poverty and repression but I am not convinced that socialism would wipe out the problems that exist.' "

Eglin on Black Housing Shortage

Progressive Federal Party (PFP) leader Colin Eglin told a Johannesburg meeting that, according to government estimates, there is a shortage of 400,000 black housing units, which meant that over 2 million blacks in the country had no housing, the paper reports on page 4. Eglin called for "a 'major concerted effort' by South Africans to remedy the black housing crisis and avert a national catastrophe." He noted that national and local authorities as well as the private sector provided only 16,613 housing units in urban townships during 1985 and that for the private sector to develop and sell property to a black required the approval of 28 government departments.

Column on Namibian Independence

In the "Political Midweek" column on the same page, Michael Acott says that "SWA/Namibia is unlikely to become independent this year, even if South Africa's August deadline for an agreement on a Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola is met." Even according to the most optimistic timetable 1 August would not be the date of independence, but merely the beginning of a lengthy process since the 1978 settlement plan provides for a 7-month runup to independence. However, it is extremely unlikely the 1 August deadline will be accepted. Although President Botha has "gained some international credit for setting a date on which he is prepared to implement the settlement plan," it remains to be seen whether he will ever be called up to do so. "An early election here would be one indication that he wants to go to the polls before risking the installation of a SWAPO government in Windhoek and the resultant right-wing agitation about Nationalists having capitulated to communists and terrorists." The government will "settle when it believes the advantages in doing so outweigh the disadvantages of the effects on conservative whites and revolutionary black opinion at home."

CITIZEN on Eglin

Commenting on PFP leader Colin Englin's remark that it would be the height of folly for the party to leave Parliament, Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 20 March says in an editorial on page 6 that while Eglin showed "none of the academic brilliance of which Dr Slabbert was capable," PFP members should be glad of this. Eglin has "a solid workmanlike approach that is needed at this particular point in the party's history." Eglin has a difficult job for although the party has reaffirmed its unity, "there is a bitterness within the party that suggests that Slabbert affair still casts its shadow." "Whether the party can re-establish or extend its base in white politics will depend on what image it projects among the white electorate — and that image cannot be one, as at present, of being soft on terrorism, sympathetic to radicals, and prepared to play footsy-footsy with the ANC."

NRP Leader Calls for Blacks in Parliament

"Mr Bill Sutton, leader of the New Republic Party [NRP], last night again hinted that the NRP may contest the Pinelands seat in the forthcoming by-election," Brian Stuart reports on page 11. Sutton told a meeting in Claremont that "what was needed was a political movement among moderate blacks that would give them reason to resist violence. This could come from the NRP's proposed 'coalition party.' " " 'The bottom line for such an organization must be the inclusion of blacks in the present Parliament.' "

East Rand Policemen Acquitted

The paper reports on the same page that two East Rand policemen, who had been accused of culpable homicide after a black man they were questioning died from "consistent pressure being applied to his neck," have been acquitted. The magistrate said that the policemen's version that the suspect fell during an epileptic fit may have been true and he acquitted them accordingly.

Police Unit To Combat Car Theft

"Police in Soweto have formed special units like those in Alexandra to combat a recent spate of armed car robberies," Andrew Thomas reports on page 18. "Soweto police say about 60 cars have been seized by gangs of youths armed with a variety of weapons in the last 10 days. In Alexandra, about 51 cars have been stolen since Monday last week."

Tutu Urged To Restore Peace

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 20 March reports on page 1 that "Soweto residents have called on Bishop Desmond Tutu to restore peace to the township as escalating violence between gangsters and youths threaten to erupt into a full-scale war." In an effort to prevent further violence, "an emergency meeting of residents and black organisations was called in Orlando East last night."

Haggie Rand Strike Continues

"Several hundred Haggie Rand workers are still sitting in at Germiston and Jupiter plants despite the dismissal of 1,900 colleagues on Monday," Claire Pickard-Cambridge reports on page 2. However, the company is to hold talks with the Metal and Allied Workers Union and the possibility of rehiring the dismissed workers will be discussed."

BUSINESS DAY on Budget

In its editorial on page 6, the paper disputes the criticism that the budget had nothing for the poor. True, it did not redistribute income to them "but that is something different entirely and of dubious benefit. What the poor (or, more correctly, the unemployed) need are more job opportunities, not an expansion of the development handouts that the budget did contain." Had more relief been given directly to the poor, no growth would have been stimulated. The paper says the major problem is that the tax cuts were not sufficiently extensive. It is from the middle-income group that entrepreneurial activity comes, "activity that will create jobs faster than any other phenomenon. Their increased economic activity will be to the benefit of the economy as a whole and all who sail in her."

White Frustration

Political reporter Peter Wallington reports on page 7 that Progressive Federal Party (PFP) leaders are trying to instill confidence in the party and give it new direction after the resignation of former leader Frederick van Zyl Slabbert. One meeting in Rosebank, Johannesburg, "was a study in white fear and frustration — fear about the future, frustration over not being able to do anything about it." Questioners asked what plan of action the party had to resolve the situation. Party leaders were unable to provide a satisfactory answer. Party official Peter Gastrow said that the party had to give up comfortable paternalism and become more relevant by becoming " 'involved with real political action in South Africa.' " However, Wallington notes that "the PFP has to convince whites who want change that it is the best vehicle for this."

Inkatha-COSATU War

Clare Pickard-Cambridge reports on the same page that "a Natal shop-floor war might result from the proposed launch of the Inkatha-backed union opposed to the Congress of SA Trade Unions (COSATU)." "Academics believe the crucial area of confrontation between Inkatha and COSATU will be in Durban." According to Natal University industrial sociologist Rob Lambert, " 'The possibility exists that Inkatha may create divisions in some factories, but I believe Inkatha will probably only make gains in areas where COSATU has not entrenched itself.' " Although Chief Buthelezi had criticized COSATU for its political positions, he failed "to understand that shop stewards had been exposed to township crises and had accepted that they had to express demands from workers and community members." While some employees welcomed the new union, others "have established relationships with COSATU unions and fear the resistance and conflict which could be generated by possible Inkatha inroads."

Criticism of Hunger Funds' Return

The Johannesburg *STAR* in English for 20 March reports on page 1 that Operation Hunger, academics, and the PFP have attacked the government for not using R6 million of the R10 million allocated to its emergency feeding scheme. PFP spokesman on health Dr Marius Barnard plans to investigate and question whether the scheme had been properly implemented. Dr Colin Cameron, who runs the scheme, said it was introduced to "alleviate the plight of the desperately hungry" but was not intended as a "full feeding program for people suffering from malnutrition." Several relief organizations, including Operation Hunger, were refused government aid because they were not registered as welfare organizations.

Chamber of Mines-Union Agreement

The Chamber of Mines has signed a recognition agreement with the African Miners' and Allied Workers' Union. A joint statement said the recognition concerned security employees, about 120 personnel, at JCI's Western Areas Gold Mining Company. The general secretary of the union said its total membership at the mine was in the region of 3,800.

Editorial on Hunger

"Taking food out of starving mouths is the kind of accusation no government would wish to have levelled at it. But what else can one call the failure to use R6 million of the R10 million allocated last year to feed the destitute?", a page 10 editorial asks. To find destitute families one needs go no further than the offices of Operation Hunger. A simple look round almost any homeland should convince anyone of the "chronic poverty" that has been aggravated by years of drought and recession. "Bureaucratic madness — for that is what it must be — cannot be allowed to stop destitute people from getting the help due to them," the editorial concludes.

DPSC on Government Powers

An article on the editorial page by the Detainees' Parents Support Committee [DPSC] says that having seen the "devastating effects" of the state of emergency, "we were extremely relieved" when we heard it was to be lifted. "It is difficult to appreciate the sheer human suffering inflicted by the state of emergency." The detention of thousands failed to stem the conflict in the townships and, if anything, "served to intensify it." Even the minister of law and order is now beginning to admit that the "root causes of township unrest lie in legitimate grievances." But now, the DPSC says, "we are faced with the spectre of a permanent undeclared state of emergency." The government "has hinted, and legal experts have predicted, that the powers used in the emergency will now be enshrined in Government statutes, probably a Public Safety Act." The DPSC is determined to fight "tooth and nail" any "vast extension of already horrendous powers." If the government recognizes that the conflict in this country is based on "legitimate and widespread grievances," then it must meet the basic demands of South Africa's majority.

Rise of Vigilantes

"They have emerged in the recent times of political turmoil in small townships, in metropolitan shanty towns and in the remote homelands. They go by many names — the A-Team, the Phakathis, the Amabutho, the Fathers, the Mbokotho — they sow bloodshed and chaos even as they preach 'law and order.' " They are an "increasingly recognisable breed, known most simply as the 'vigilante' or 'Mabangalala.' " Thus reports an article on page 11, quoting Nicholas Haysom of the Wits University Center for Applied Legal Studies, who has just had a book *Mabangalala: The Rise of Rightwing Vigilantes in South Africa* published. Haysom is quoted as saying that the vigilantes share a common target — "members or leaders of groups associated with resistance to apartheid or homeland rule," and they operate allegedly in some cases with police support. Their purpose is to "alter the balance of power in areas where the State has a 'crisis of control.' " In several cases there have been "demonstrable and acknowledged" links between the vigilantes and community councillors and in certain homelands the vigilantes derive their authority "directly from the formal political structures." And in some areas vigilantes have fed off the "tensions and divisions" with the community. The vigilantes do much more than disorganize or cow antiapartheid organizations into submissions, Haysom says. "They raise the level of brutality in black areas dramatically."

Reaction to Lecturer's Arrest

The Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English for 20 March reports on page 1 that several organizations have reacted angrily to the announcement that the Reverend Arnold Stofile has " 'resigned' " his post of lecturer at the University of Fort Hare while he is being detained under Ciskei's National Security Act. Stofile, who is also border region secretary of the United Democratic Front, is being held under Section 26 which provides indefinite detention without trial and no access to lawyers, private doctors, family or any other persons. The university's public relations officer, when questioned about his resignation, suggested Stofile himself should be asked about it. A page 4 editorial calls the detention a "very familiar story" but the really frightening part is that his resignation letter "came from behind locked doors." Fort Hare has a proud history which was destroyed when the "university did not question why a man should resign from behind locked doors. They did not ask why he was able to communicate with them when he was not allowed to communicate with his very own family."

Students To Meet ANC

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans of 20 March reports on page 6 that the students of Cape Town University voted unanimously at a mass meeting that representatives of the university be included in a National Union of South Africa Students delegation to hold talks with the ANC. A motion stating that no solution to South Africa's political problems would be found without the participation of the ANC was accepted. The motion also stated that no clear understanding of the country's future could be formulated without understanding what the ANC stands for, and that South Africans had the right to gain information about the ANC and to meet with the organization.

BEELD on Black Polarization

On page 8 the paper editorializes on the plans by Inkatha to form a trade union. The decision, it says, is not surprising, since the challenge to Inkatha by Congress of South African Trade Unions was issued in the political field. "The past year has been notable for the harsh criticism of Chief Buthelezi by radicals. He is accused of being a 'sell-out' who owes his position to the apartheid system. The formation of an Inkatha-inclined trade union is certainly going to speed up the polarization of black politics."

Government, Business Cooperation

Pretoria *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans of 19 March says on page 3 that Fred du Plessis, chairman of Sanlam, told the group's annual general meeting in Bellville that the country's problems are so serious and complicated that they could not be solved without a long-term national strategy. "He said the situation called for great understanding on the part of the government and close cooperation with the private sector to overcome the obstacles on the road to success, particularly in the light of the increasing danger of sanctions and boycotts."

Women Told To Accept Reality

A report in *THE TRANSVALER* on page 13 says Dr Rina Venter, member of Parliament, said at the annual wreath-laying ceremony of the South African Women's Federation in Pretoria that the women of South Africa should open their eyes to what is taking place in the country. "Women should realize the extent of the onslaught against the country and discuss the reality intelligently. One of these realities was that the Afrikaner has become a minority which has to fight for its survival. Another reality was that apartheid had become a symbol of the oppression of people." She said the task of the women was to uplift the blacks, and the culture of the Afrikaner woman could offer the blacks something worthwhile.

TRANSVALER on French Election

In its editorial on page 14, the paper says whether or not South Africa will benefit eventually from the results of the French election is not yet clear, but nevertheless the outcome is good news for this country. Good news, because the Socialists who for the past few years have attacked South Africa with so much hatred and venom have been voted out of office. "They were the ones who took the lead in all kinds of boycotts and sanctions," the paper says. The conservative coalition which took power on Sunday will have to try to get along with the political albatross of a socialist president, it says. "But nevertheless, one can expect that the conservative alliance will scale down the actions against South Africa. That they see events in this country in a totally different light as the socialists is no secret."

Windhoek Unemployment

On page 3, the Windhoek *DIE REPUBLIKEIN* in Afrikaans of 17 March reports that Windhoek City Councillor C.J. du Preez has expressed concern at the threat posed by the influx of unemployed persons in the capital. He said the threat started after the lifting of influx control, and the matter should be referred to the National Assembly and the Cabinet. He was opposed by Councillor Vic Verster, who said discussion of the issue in the assembly would not solve it. " 'An urbanization strategy has to be worked out, because the unemployment situation is very serious.' "

REPUBLIKEIN on SWAPO Policy

In its editorial on page 4 the paper says the attitude of the territory's National Party, SWA-NP, as recently announced, on Proclamation AG8, was both pleasing and discouraging. "It was pleasing because the party explicitly declared that the hated proclamation can be changed for the better. Also that SWA-NP would go out of its way to accommodate views expressed in the National Assembly." The paper also welcomes the fact that the party has said the minimum guarantees the party will ask for the protection of minorities would be more reasonable. But the paper is discouraged by the SWA-NP claim that it has always been in favor of changing the proclamation and that the party now admits that it used the proclamation as a weapon against the central government.

Campaign for Nonracial Education

"A campaign for the opening of schools to all races and the abolition of apartheid legislation blocking 'the vision of a non-racial and democratic education system' will be launched tomorrow by Education for an Aware South Africa (EDASA)," Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 20 March reports on page 3. The group plans to stage pickets, collect signatures on petitions and distribute pamphlets.

CAPE TIMES on Tricameral System

"The unwieldy working of the tricameral constitution have come under fire this week in two of the three ethnic chambers," the paper says in an editorial on page 10. Labor Party leader Allan Hendrickse criticized Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Heunis' absence at a debate and Indian MP's in the House of Delegates have moved for joint debates on bills rather than having each bill considered separately. However, "these frustrations are inevitable in the complicated system Nationalists devised to keep power in white hands while giving the new coloured and Indian chambers a share of responsibility but not a share of real power." As the House of Assembly is the real power base, "Nationalist ministers will inevitably spend most of their time there, and if other MPs feel they are less important, this is only a reflection of the reality laid down in the tricameral constitution. It should also have come as no surprise that the government turned down a suggestion for joint debates. This would mean joint sittings taking decisions, which is expressly fobidden by the constitution."

Heunis Clarifies Absence

Also on page 10, the paper reports that "the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, has pointed out that he was present for a portion of the debate in the House of Representatives on Monday," although the *CAPE TIMES* had stated otherwise in its editorial in the 19 March issue. Heunis said he was present when the motion was introduced but was absent for the remainder of the debate and so was unable to reply to it.

MP's To Get Raise

Brian Stuart reports on pages 1 and 2 of Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 21 March that "members of Parliament of all three Houses and the President's Council will get pay rises of 10 percent from April 1, in line with the increases to be given to other State employees." State President P.W. Botha, however, "has said he will not accept any raise in his salary and allowances this year."

Ending Bread Subsidy Opposed

"The South African Agricultural Union yesterday expressed opposition to any plans to abolish totally the subsidy on bread," the paper reports on page 3. The union agreed that the subsidy should be lowered, but called on the government to discard its plan to phase it out completely.

Nel on Parliament's Role

"The fact that the Government was negotiating with black political leaders outside Parliament did not negate the role of Parliament, the deputy minister of information, Mr Louis Nel, told the American Chamber of Commerce yesterday," the paper reports on page 12. Nel said that former Progressive Federal Party (PFP) leader Frederik van Zyl's Slabbert's statement that Parliament could not bring about constitutional reform showed " 'complete ignorance, not only of the role of Parliament, but also of the road of reform if it is to be constitutional.' " Nel also said "the Government's commitment to reform had to materialise into reality or it would hold 'no promise or hope.' "

1,000 Change Race Group

"More than 1,000 people officially changed colour last year," Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 21 March reports on page 4. "They were reclassified from one race group to another by the stroke of a government pen."

Debate on 'Own Affairs'

"The only way to abolish apartheid in South Africa was to scrap the present racially based constitution," PFP MP Nic Olivier told the House of Assembly, the paper reports on page 4. Olivier said the concept of "own affairs" "meant nothing but the maintenance of apartheid." Olivier's argument was echoed by another PFP MP, Tian Van der Merwe, who said " 'in the final instance, "own affairs" is a political stupidity and not only a practical absurdity.' " However, a Conservative Party MP "attacked the constitution on the grounds that the 'own affairs' concept deprived the whites of the freedom granted to blacks in their separate homelands." In defending the constitution, National Party MP Helgard van Rensburg said the tricameral system was an extension of democracy. He added that "the PFP's proposal was not acceptable to the majority of white voters, while the CP's policy had to be rejected as 'blatant white domination.' " Also participating in the debate, Minister Chris Heunis said "it would be foolish to ignore the existence of groups in South Africa, and it was "fiction to contemplate South Africa becoming a democracy in which all people participated in a single political structure."

STAR on UK Conference

An editorial on page 12 discusses the upcoming conference in Great Britain on the country's future which will be attended by the United Democratic Front (UDF), the Azanian People's Organization, Inkatha, and Frederik van Zyl Slabbert and Alex Borraine and to which the ANC, the National Party, and the Pan-Africanist Congress have been invited. Although "South Africans of different persuasions are finally going to talk to each other," "the odd bit is that all this will be happening in the UK." Still, "South Africans should be grateful that the Brits are getting their spokesmen together — even if it seems an awfully roundabout way of doing things."

Falling Expenditure, Employment in Mines

Sven Lunsche reports on page 14 that "the fluctuating gold price makes capital expenditure and employment projections on gold over the next five years difficult to predict, says Mr Henry

Kenney, senior economist of the Chamber of Mines." Capital expenditure on mines "is projected to rise steeply by 22 percent to R2.3 billion this year" but is likely to rise hardly at all in the 2 years after that. In 1989, it is expected to fall to R2.1 billion, a decline of 14.4 percent over the 1988 figure. "At the same time the number of additional jobs on the gold mines is not expected to go up by very much. The total of unskilled workers is expected to start declining from 1988 onwards, a trend which will be repeated for skilled workers in the following years."

'Bleak Picture' of Economy

"SA cannot afford a boom, said Mr Tony Norton, president of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, while addressing a client meeting at Credit Guarantee last night," Gareth Costa reports on the same page. Norton "went on to paint a bleak picture of the economic predicament that SA is in. He said there had been a steady decline in economic growth from six percent down to two percent over the last few years. The upturns in the economy were getting shorter and the downturns longer and there was a three precent growth in the black population an area of high expectations." Norton said the government was looking to improve the economy by deregulation, privatization, "and more stringent monetary and fiscal strategies and these were all on the agenda, but the pace was lacking and time was running out." Norton added that the solution to the country's capital problem was exports.

Black Education Situation

"Black schools closed yesterday for end-of-term holidays amid widespread boycotts, stayaways and the suspension of classes affecting more than 80,000 pupils in more than 100 schools. The government has just over a week to meet pupils' demands before the major education conference, convened by the National Education Crisis Committee, takes place at the end of the month," Thelma Tuch reports on pages 1 and 2 of Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 20 March. Deputy Education Minister Sam de Beer met the committee recently to discuss how the government had addressed the demands for the abolition of school fees, the provision of free books and stationery, repair of damaged schools, postponement of exams, and the establishment of student representative councils. "He said government was firmly committed to a programme aimed at equal opportunity for all and open channels of communication. However, he reiterated that the remaining demands for the unbanning of the Congress of South African Students (COSAS), the release of detained pupils and teachers and the withdrawal of the SADF from the townships were issues which could only be dealt with by the Ministry of Law and Order."

Cooper Passport Request Rejected

Peter Wallington reports on page 3 that Saths Cooper, president of the Azanian People's Organization, has said that his request for a passport to attend the conference on South Africa to be held in Great Britain had been rejected by the Department of Home Affairs. Cooper could not give any reason for the rejection.

Objection to Bill

"Grave fears have been raised in trade union and civil rights circles over proposed legislation to grant President P.W. Botha vast discretionary powers to 'undermine' trade unions and scrap workers' rights and benefits. Concern reached a peak yesterday as groups opposing the Temporary Removal of the Restriction on Economic Activities Bill learned that today was the deadline for submission of representations to the parliamentary standing committee on Home Affairs which is considering the legislation," the paper reports on page 3. Black Sash President Mary Burton appealed for an extension to the deadline and said the proposed law could " 'create opportunities for tremendous exploitation,' " while the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) "sent an urgent telex to Cape Town today to detail its objections" COSATU believes the bill will allow "the rights and protection workers have won over the years to be whittled away in the name of promoting small business."

Retail Sales Hit 5-Year Low

"Retail sales for December last year hit a five-year low, according to the latest Central Statistical Services release," the paper says on page 4. "The most noticeable drops in sales were a 16.1 percent fall in the sports and entertainment requisites category; 9.5 percent down in the jewellery trade; 8.7 percent down in book stores and stationers and 8.4 percent down in clothing, footwear and textiles."

Police Warning Criticized

"Businessmen in the suburbs adjoining Alexandra township on the northern fringe of Johannesburg have every reason to be riled by the open-ended police warning to motorists to stay out of the area," the paper says in another editorial on the same page. The warning is "damaging to their trade, particularly at a time when every cent of turnover is needed to maintain cashflows and solvency." "It is not the public who should be kept out of the affected areas, but the gangs of youths who are attacking people and destroying vehicles," but "police patrols appear to be more assiduous at apprehending pass-law offenders than protecting people and property." "Perhaps manpower and vehicles could be diverted from their political duties to fulfill their traditional functions."

Academic on Black Revolution

In an article on the same page, Stanley Uys says "for almost 30 years a vigorous debate has been taking place on whether a black revolution is possible in SA. The verdict of most academics is that it is not possible — at least not in the classic sense of an armed seizure of power." According to David Welsh, a professor of Southern Africa Studies at the University of Cape Town, " 'it is extremely difficult to overthrow a modern industrial state with its massive powers of coercion,' " particularly since " 'many black areas have been created to facilitate the movement of security forces.' " However, Welsh believes " 'white hegemony is unlikely to survive intact: violence has a sapping, haemorrhaging effect on the white power structure.' " " 'Possibly the best one can hope for is that after a period of endemic violence, exhaustion, deadlock and paralysis will set in and the two sides will try negotiation. This, of course, presupposes a rationality on both sides.' " Michael Spicer, public affairs adviser to Anglo American Chairman Gavin Relly sees " 'the black struggle' " as a " 'long drawn-out process in which polarisation of points of view will intensify, moderates will lose confidence, emigration will increase and the economy will unwind in a degenerative process.' " According to Sempie Terblanche, a professor of economics at the University of Stellenbosch, " 'apartheid will have to be dismantled systematically over a decade or two, and at the same time new structures will have to be put in its place.' " " 'The economy will have to be restructured so that civilised standards are not destroyed." Allan Boesak believes in a Lebanon-like situation where " 'the violence on both sides will become quite uncontrollable.' " There is hope for the country, however, in the churches working for reconciliation, but even more so in " 'organisations like the UDF, where whites and blacks work together with the same commitment and taking the same risks. There is also hope in the growing realisation among young blacks not only that they are helping to bring about great changes, but that they must also hold themselves responsible for the consequences of those changes.' " Uys concludes the article by discussing the ANC's strategy, which he sees as making the townships increasingly ungovernable and gradually grinding "the white rulers and their economy down until the power structure collapses." However, it is extremely doubtful that "SA's economy, its constitutional and political systems — and its nerves — could withstand this kind of punishment" for the 10 or 20 years Terblanche suggests. "Somebody must start talking to somebody else long before then."

ANC Executive Leader's Burial

"SA Communist Party Chairman Moses Mncane Mabhida is to be buried in South Africa next weekend — the government has surprisingly agreed to allow his body be sent back from Maputo, say family lawyers," Johannesburg *CITY PRESS* in English on 23 March reports on the front page. Mabhida will be buried in Slangspruit, just a few kilometres from his birthplace, Stone Ngadi. The United Democratic Front, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and other similar organizations were to form a committee for the funeral. Mabhida is the first ANC executive member to be buried in South Africa since Chief Albert Luthuli.

Play's Cast Attacked

Also on the front page, the paper reports that the "the cast of Mbongeni Ngema's award-winning stage play Asinamali ["We have no money"] escaped death narrowly on Tuesday night when a mob stormed Hammersdale's Glazer Hall — killing popular Durban socialist Jeff Shongwe." "Cars with KwaZulu Government ZG number-plates were seen outside the hall. The cast were accused of sowing confusion in Durban with Asinamali." The paper says cast members were warned not to stage the play, and subsequently the mob stormed to hall looking for Ngema and carried out the brutal attack.

Education Crisis Meeting

"A ban on next weekend's Soweto Parents' Crisis Committee [SPCC] meeting in Durban could bring an end to black schooling for this year," warned South African Council of Churches General Secretary Beyers Naude, the paper reports on the same page. If negotiations between the SPCC and the government were unsuccessful, " 'there was a real possiblity of the closing down of all black education in South Africa.' "

Shanty Town To Be Bulldozed

On page 3, the paper reports that "Umbulu's Malukazi — scene of the recent Zulu-Pondo violence which left more than 100 people dead and 20,000 homeless — is being bulldozed to make way for the expansion of nearby Umlazi." Residents will be asked to move out next week. The number of people to be moved is estimated at 10,000.

Resistance in Rural Areas

Khulu Sibiya writes on page 4 that "confrontation between cops and youths — common in almost all urban areas in the past two years — has now dramatically shifted to the rural areas." This has taken the government by surprise. This has affected black laborers and farmers who have no access to media and "are far from being politicized." "And the intense political conflict, which the Government homeland leaders thought they could contain — probably for a life-time — has now emerged from unsuspecting quarters. For people in rural areas — who have always been the last to rise against the masters — are now fighting back." According to a report by the Transvaal Rural Action Committee, "poverty and unemployment are the root causes of dissent among rural people. Forced removals and rent evictions are happening all over the country, especially in small towns." Extraparliamentary organizations point out that "the uprisings in the rural areas won't die down until the people's grievances are resolved."

Upgrade Langa

In an article on page 5, Mono Badela reports on a report by Planact — "a group concerned with alternative approaches to development" — discussing the possible removal of residents of Langa, in the Eastern Cape, to KwaNobuhle, which is being resisted by residents. The report acknowledges the poor conditions in Langa but says there were good reasons for upgrading the area because the preconditions for a successful upgrade existed, namely: "the existence of a strong and democratic community organization in the area," and the fact that it is a stable community and people have lived in the area for many years. The report says people have an interest in improving the community because it is close to places of employment and therefore transportation costs are low, few houses would be moved to make room for upgrading, the number of people per dwelling unit is lower than in other townships, the stable ground conditions of the site and the fact that it is well-drained, the township can receive sewers which will work entirely by gravity, and the town has a well-defined stormwater system to provide adequate drainage. Upgrading was recommended based on the following principles: If residents were to pay for the upgrading, payments should be kept as low as possible, and "the existing system of street committees, area committees and the Langa coordinating committee be recognized as the most important decision-making body in the upgrading process." All decisions on upgrading should be discussed by these bodies.

Toyota Advances Blacks

According to Toyota Managing Director Colin Adcock, significant numbers of black workers of his company are advancing into supervisory posts, the paper reports on page 8. However, he said the company had no special program for advancing blacks " 'because we do not define our black employees in the traditional way but include in this group all people who are suffering for any social, economic or political reason.' " The company wanted to promote blacks even before the end of job reservation. Today welders in the factory are predominantly black and visiting Japanese engineers praise their work. There are nearly 200 black supervisors of foreman, called "indunas", in the plan who " 'are an essential link in our managment structure' " and there are many blacks working in responsible positions side-by-side with other members of the community. " 'You just cannot produce quality in a factor if the workforce is divided and emotionally stressed,' " he said.

U.S. Aid to Companies

"A committee of black businessmen has been formed to draw up an action plan to enable American companies in South Africa to make a 'meaningful contribution' to black business," the paper reports on the same page. The committee will report in two months to leading black businessmen and representatives of U.S. companies. At a meeting at Witwatersrand University, delegates "identified the problem and frustrations of black entrepreneurs as insufficient finance and stifiing legislation. Many delegates felt that while corporate policy dictated that American companies do business with black businesses, this seldom happened in practice."

Editorial on Violence

Between the Sharpeville killings in 1960 and the Langa killings in 1985 "South Africa had learnt nothing. Between 1960 and now, South Africa has learnt nothing. Protest is met with the might of the gun and so the spiral of violence winds higher and higher," says a page 4 editorial. In 1960 people were protesting against the pass laws and today, 26 years later, blacks still carry passes. Though the state president said the passes would be abolished by 1 July, people are still getting prosecuted under the pass laws. "This is just one example of how superciliously black grievances are being treated." Is it any wonder blacks get angrier by the day, the editorial says, "and this anger is fueled by the violent reaction of the Government."

Patterns of Violence

In his "Focus" column on the same page, Sam Mabe calls the Sharpeville shootings 26 years ago a "watershed in South Africa's history of resistance." He quotes a British political analyst, Colin Legum, as saying at the time that the "unrest in South Africa was not in itself a revolution, but a forerunner of greater conflict to come, 'perhaps like the abortive Russian revolution of 1905.' " After the state of emergency was lifted on 30 August 1960, Mabe says, most of its provisions such as the right to search people or their homes without a warrant, bannings, and detention without trial were incorporated into the country's security legislation. "This has meant that South Africa has been under a virtual state of emergency for the past 26 years. But that state of emergency has done very little, if anything, to dampen the militancy of blacks." Whereas in Sharpeville in 1960 and Soweto in 1976 the first people to die were shot by the police, in September 1984 the first victims were killed by angry mobs. "There has been a marked shift in the pattern of violence. Could this mean that Mr Legum's predictions are true?"

Black Issues Must Be Addressed

"It is actually quite strange that very little has changed since that first traumatic episode at Sharpeville," "Joe's Burg" column says on page 5. "One would have thought that history is recorded so that future generations can learn from the mistakes made by their predecessors. Not in this country. We are, it seems, determined to re-write history all the way." Commenting on the whites' "horror" over the possible release of Mandela and the government's "no-win" situation, the column says Mandela is not the only reason why people are up and fighting and dying. "There are other issues that need to be addressed simultaneously" — the education crisis, withdrawal of the SADF from the townships, basic socio-economic needs, housing, scrapping of influx control and the population regristration act. "All indications of apartheid must go." "Only then can one start talking power-sharing. We must admit that sharing cannot be done equitably in an unequal situation." That is the bottom line. "If we hope to see a peaceful 1986, that is what must be done, not because the Government wishes it to be done, but because it must be done."

National Forum for Blacks

The Johannesburg office of the National Forum has released a statement confirming that the organization is for blacks only and that its policy is against association with whites, a page 10 article says. The statement refutes claims that white organizations have been invited to the third National Forum to be held in Durban on 28 and 29 March. "The forum bases its approach to the struggle on the reality of racial oppression and economic exploitation in this country."

Two Teenagers Killed

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 22 March reports on page 2 that two 14-year-olds were killed by police in Alexandra on Thursday. "Police had earlier said that two men were shot dead by police in a car chase in the township after they and a gang of youths had forced a motorist from his car." The "men" turned out to be the two children. One lady said a policeman had appeared upset and apologised for having shot " 'such a young boy.' "

Church Opposes Apartheid

"The Apostolic Faith Mission (AFM) of Africa has issued a statement condemning apartheid in an effort to dispel the widely-held view that it is a 'pro-apartheid' church," the paper reports on page 5. "This is an unusual step for the AFM of Africa, which does not normally make a public stand on matters related to politics." A church leader said it was necessary because " 'the church has been marked as a pro-apartheid church, which is not true.' "

House Sales to Indians, Blacks

On page 7 the paper reports that several Indian families and at least one black businessman have bought houses in Johannesburg's "prestige" northern suburbs and adjacent Sandton, and "are living there without fuss or bother." One Johannesburg estate agent was quoted as saying that the " 'risk of being evicted after buying a house is decreasing every day.' " He called the sale of property to Indians a " 'most exciting area' " which had many "legal, social, political and economic implications." He also said a wealthy black businessman was living in the northern suburbs with his "white mistress." Although the sale had actually been made in the woman's name, the documents were so worded that if the relationship ended, proceeds from the sale of the house would revert to the businessman.

Detainees Freed

Johannesburg *THE WEEKLY MAIL* in English on 21-27 March [as published] carries on page 1 a report on the Bloemfontein Appeal Court's ruling releasing people in "preventive detention" if the reasons for the detention were not specified. The Rand

Supreme Court followed suit, releasing three people for the same reason. The Bloemfontein judge reasoned that "the legislature intended that the detainee should have a fair opportunity to deal with the Minister's reasons for detaining him and persuade him that the issuing of the order was unjustified." Failure to give him reasons would not give him a fair opportunity to make representations. To many of the appellants, the judge's ruling was "a qualified victory. Most have completed long stints in detention and have since been released."

Children Detained

On page 2, Pat Sidley reports that "at least 35 children — some as young as 11 — have been detained in the Karoo town of Aliwal North. They are being held under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act, which allows police to detain them for 14 days without charging them. And residents claim that water to the township — which has a system of communal taps only — has been deliberately cut off for the past two days." Representatives of the Aliwal North Youth Congress told the paper they believed the detentions were made to prevent the children attending a funeral of a young woman who was allegedly killed by police. They also said the water was often cut off when police were taking action.

Damages Awarded

"A northern Namibian shopkeeper, Severinus Sikeketa, who was given a record R30,000 in damages from Law and Order Minister Louis le Grange for wrongful arrest and maltreatment in detention, claims he was kept in a tiny cell and fed a starvation diet," Kevin Toolis reports on the same page. Le Grange agreed to pay the damages shortly before the case was heard by the Windhoek Supreme Court. Sikeketa said conditions were " 'atrocious' ", with restrictions on food and water and primitive toilet facilities. He was kept in solitary confinement and was not allowed to speak to anyone but his interrogators.

Fighting in the Mines

According to Kent McNamara, a research official from the Chamber of Mines, "the migrant labour system is at the root of faction fighting in South Africa's gold mines," the paper reports on page 3. In his doctoral thesis, McNamara found that other factors for conflict included "congestion in the mine hostels, competition for women and liquor supplies, and struggles over wages and jobs in the context of widespread unemployment and drought in rural areas." He disproved the "conventional white view that faction fights showed blacks were inherently savage, inferior, and incapable of settling their differences." Anglo American and the National Union of Mineworkers have set up a commission of inquiry to examine causes of faction fighting in Anglo's mines. McNamara said that there were "certain social divisions" which were regionally based because miners were recruited from different areas, and all the miner has are "friendship relations — the people from his home region who live in his compound — which he is unlikely to repudiate. The point is that interests remain regionally based — as opposed to ethnically based. Communal and political tensions become expressed in terms of this social structure and hence one has faction fights." He said a lot of the problems result from overcrowding and noted that the hostels were " 'whirlpools of shifting communities' " rather than settled working class communities because of the constant turnover.

Calls for Mixed Schools

According to a report by Moira Levy from Cape Town on page 5, "a quiet revolution is slowly taking place in white education in the Western Cape. Parents and teachers at a growing number of schools are adding their voices to a call to open schools to pupils of all races." This followed a decision by parents at a prestigious Cape Town school to open it to all regardless of race. Teachers have also circulated a petition among pupils demanding " 'open schools in an open society.' "

Responsible Civil Disobedience

Carmel Rickard reports on page 6 of *THE WEEKLY MAIL* on Sheena Duncan's address opening the national Black Sash conference last week, citing Duncan as saying that "responsible civil disobedience was the last hope for avoiding bloody confrontation." Duncan said that there was no signs the government planned to end race classification and that government would maintain power " 'through the barrel of a gun' " as long as apartheid remained. " 'If this power has to be taken from them through the barrel of a gun, then we are lall going to live through a time of unimaginable terror.' " She said that the only " 'one small hope' " she could see was " 'those political movements and black communities who have withdrawn and are withdrawing their cooperation with the apartheid state.' " She said civil disobedience was the last resort, but that in South Africa " 'the law does not offer redress for the many gross violations of civil liberties and human rights which are part of the laws of this country.' " Referring to the nonviolent seizure of the government in the Philippines, she said: " 'We could still do it like that. We could stop the tanks with our bare hands. We could find that common national will. If we do not do so, we are going to enter into a very long and very terrible time of violence conflict.' "

ANC's Approach

Howard Barrel discusses on page 12 the ANC's current strategy as it attempts to "build and consolidate under its aegis an alliance" and also tries to "isolate thoroughly the diehard supporters of apartheid." From recent discussions with the organization, it appears the ANC "envisages a two-tier alignment around itself based on a distinction between 'revolutionary forces' and 'forces for change.' " The revolutionary forces include itself and the South African Communist Party as well as "a large number of other organisations inside the country." The "forces for change" are largely white groups who are beginning to overcome the classic South African liberal dilemma: "They denounce apartheid but attempt to steer a middle course between that denunication and direct identification with, or involvement in, mass mobilisation against apartheid." The "forces for change" must be "weaned away from any residual confidence in the current government and state system, and be drawn into as close an alliance as possible with the primary grouping, the 'revolutionary forces.' " They see the resignation of former PFP leader Frederick van Zyl Slabbert as an indication that he may be overcoming the "liberal dilemma," which may be why he has been so criticized by liberal commentators. The ANC also feels the South African intelligence officials may be trying to tie up the leadership with an endless stream of talks and therefore is considering establishing a secretariat for the purpose of talks.

Budget Examined

On page 12, Pat Sidley says that "more widespread hunger, malnutrition and starvation will follow the government's cutback of R170-million in subsidies on basic foods." A recent report on the relationship between hunger and unrest noted that "a decline in bread consumption took place in several areas hit by unrest — before the introduction of consumer boycotts. 'We wonder whether hunger itself acted as part of the trigger mechanism setting off the distrubances,' the submission said." Jean le May cites on page 13 statements that the new budget is a "rich's man budget" and that it will lead to more conflict, which is understandable considering the "cut in the bread subsidy, the refusal to lift GST on all food, and the failure to reach parity in schooling, pensions and social services for blacks." He notes that black housing is a particularly serious problem, citing figures that there is a shortage of at least 390,790 homes with 16,613 provided by the state. Furthermore, Helen Suzman replied to a statement that Soweto's population was just under a million " 'you can double that.' Her comment arouses the interesting speculation that government planners are as bad at arithmetic as they are insensitive to the makings of even worse crises inherent in the budget provisions."

ZIMBABWE

Nkomo, ZANU-PF Ministers Address Rally

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[Text] The Zimbabwean opposition leader, Dr Joshua Nkomo, of the ZAPU party, has urged his followers to help the ZANU-PF government to bring about peace in the troubled Matabeleland Province. Dr Nkomo was addressing a rally in the mining area of Kezi, 80km south of the Matabeleland capital of Bulawayo. The gathering was also attended by two senior members of ZANU-PF, the home affairs minister, Mr Enos Nkala, and the state security minister, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa. Observers say the rally symbolizes Dr Nkomo's commitment towards forming an alliance with the ruling party.

Dr Nkomo described the rally as an historical turning point to bring about peace, prosperity, and progress to Zimbabwe. He urged the people of Matabeleland to report dissidents operating in the province to the authorities.

Mr Nkala told the rally that he had come to Kezi to seek peace among the different tribes of the nation. Mr Nkala was heckled by a number of people in the crowd when he challenged them to deny that they had ever seen dissidents. The hecklers told the minister that soldiers were beating them. He replied that it was the dissidents in Matabeleland who wanted to start conflict in Zimbabwe. Mr Nkala said the soldiers would be removed only when there were no more dissidents.

Matabeleland is the stonghold of the ZAPU party, which draws most of its support from the minority Ndebele tribe. The party holds all 15 parliamentary seats in the province.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 MARCH 1986

Libyan-U.S. Clash in Gulf of Sidra

Libya's version of the 24 March clash in the Gulf of Sidra was contained in an unscheduled announcement broadcast by Tripoli television, which claimed that Libyan air defenses responded to U.S. violations of Libyan airspace over the Gulf by shooting down three U.S. aircraft, two of them at noon and a third in the evening. The announcement added that the U.S. fleet shelled the "suburbs" of the city of Surt with rockets. JANA subsequently stated that U.S. planes attacked a "civilian" Libyan ship and cited a statement by an "informed source" claiming that U.S. aircraft attacked tugboats which went to assist the stricken vessel. Libyan forces, in contrast, permitted a U.S. helicopter to search the area where two U.S. planes were shot down, the source maintained. JANA also accused U.S. planes of following civilian aircraft as a means of obtaining radar cover to enter Libyan airspace.

Meanwhile, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio exhorted the Arab masses to storm and destroy all U.S. bases and targets in the Arab world and to execute U.S. "spies" posing as "experts and consultants." Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi discussed the U.S. "aggression" in a telephone conversation with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, SANA noted, and JANA subsequently announced Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's arrival in Tripoli.

In a related commentary reported by Damascus radio, the Syrian paper *AL-BA'TH* linked events in the Gulf of Sidra with "the tense situation on the northeastern front between Syria and the Zionist enemy," adding that the United States is openly backing Israeli "threats" against Syria. For Iran's part, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi stressed "full support" for Libya in a statement cited by IRNA, asserting that the U.S. action was a "flagrant violation" of Libya's territorial integrity and is considered "an aggression against all Islamic states."

Sudan

At their meeting in the Ethiopian city of Koka, the National Alliance for National Salvation and the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) reached an agreement "on the broad lines of the situation which should precede official dialogue between the two sides," SUNA reported, adding that a committee was established to "formulate the resolutions which have been reached." Addis Ababa radio reported 25 March that the Sudanese delegations ended their meeting with an agreement to hold a constitutional congress in Khartoum in June. The National Alliance delegation head also announced that the two sides would meet again 7 May to prepare for the constitutional conference, while the SPLA delegation head said an agreement was reached that the Transitional Military Government will resign and that Sudanese military agreements with other countries will be canceled, the radio added.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian troops "succeeded in completely annihilating" an Iraqi brigade in heavy fighting along the Al-Bihar-Basra road 24 March, while Iranian naval forces sank Iraqi vessels in the Khawr 'Abdallah before they could approach Iranian positions, an Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio claimed.

OPEC Affairs

The OPEC conference meeting held in Geneva 16-24 March was adjourned until 15 April "in order to allow enough time for OPEC heads of delegations to consult their respective governments, as well as with other oil-producing exporting countries," according to a press statement carried by OPECNA. In a related report, the chief Iraqi delegate to the conference told AFP that Iraq is not prepared to compromise on its demand for a 13.1-percent quota of any oil production ceiling decided upon by the OPEC countries.

Israel; Inter-Arab Affairs

Israel has always welcomed direct talks with any Arab leader, senior Israeli officials said in reaction to a proposal by Morocco's King Hassan II that an Arab head of state be "elected" to meet with an Israeli official, Jerusalem radio reported. KUNA reported earlier that in an interview with Kuwait's *AL-SIYASAH*, the Moroccan king proposed that an Arab leader meet with an Israeli official to "ascertain the enemy's views on the Fes summit resolutions." The king stressed that under his proposal, the Arab head of state "will not negotiate, will not be committed to anything, and will not sign anything."

Shelling in Southern Lebanon

An army of southern Lebanon (ASL) artillery attack on the southern market town of Al-Nabatiyah was not authorized by ASL Commander General Antoine Lahd, who has ordered the imprisonment of the ASL soldier responsible, Jerusalem radio reported. The shelling killed 3 people and wounded 24 others, the radio said.

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Arab League Council Session Opens in Tunis

LD250020 Kuwait KUNA in English 2026 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis, March 24 (KUNA) — The Arab Council opened here this evening its 85th ordinary session amid calls for convening an early Arab summit to tackle the present circumstances and great challenges faced by the Arab nation.

Speakers at the inaugural session, including foreign ministers of Tunisia and Bahrain as well as the Arab League secretary general, were unanimous on the lack of a minimum Arab consensus necessary to deal with the grave dangers now posed and the state of deterioration in inter-Arab relations and solidarity needed to restore lost Arab credibility.

The dangers cited by the speakers included the escalation in the Iraq-Iran war now threatening to spill over to Arab Gulf countries, the Palestinian cause and the stepped up persecution by the Zionist enemy in all occupied Arab lands.

League Secretary Chadli Klibi made special stress on the seriousness of the massive Iranian assault against Iraq, unleashed last February 10 with the aim of occupying part of its territory, and reminded that the Iranian forces' presence near the Arab Gulf threatens security of the entire region.

Syria's Al-Shar' Arrives

JN241607 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis — [Syrian] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the accompanying delegation arrived in Tunis today to participate in the meetings of the Arab League Council's 85th session which will begin work on the level of foreign ministers in Tunis tonight.

Receiving Al-Shar' and the accompanying delegation at Tunis International Airport were Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general; 'Adnan 'Umran, Arab League assistant secretary general for political and international affairs; 'Umar al-Sayyid, Syrian charge d'affaires in Tunis; and the embassy staff.

These meetings will discuss the report of the Arab League General Secretariat and the topics on the agenda regarding Palestinian, Arab, and interantional areas. Talks will also deal with the issue of the Jerusalem Electricity Company, with the fund for meeting financial requirements of educational projects in the occupied territories, and with the deficit in the UNRWA budget, as well as with the situation in southern Lebanon.

The meetings will also discuss Arab-African cooperation, liberation movements in southern Africa, and diplomatic relations between Spain and Ivory Coast on one hand and the Zionist entity on the other, as well as the U.S. and British withdrawal from UNESCO and Arab-European dialogue. They will also discuss other topics regarding legal, administrative, and financial affairs.

'Arafat Discusses PLO-Jordan Links, U.S. Role

JN241411 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Huda Tawfiq dispatch from Cairo]

[Excerpt] Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat resumed his talks with Egyptian officials in Cairo today. The delegation accompanying him took part in these talks. Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] will meet today with Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid.

The intensive talks which began between the Palestinian leader and Dr Usamah al-Baz [Director of the Presidential Office for Political Affairs] and his aides following his meeting with President Mubarak yesterday continued today for several hours. According to informed sources, these consultations are aimed at finding a way out of the current crisis or the deadlocked peace process which has been going on since the suspension of coordination between King Husayn and the PLO leadership. In light of these consultations President Mubarak is expected to meet again with Abu 'Ammar, perhaps tomorrow.

What is definite is that these talks are aimed at restoring dialogue between Jordan and the PLO. This has been confirmed by Yasir 'Arafat in his statement to our radio. He said: This Egyptian mediation is an attempt to bring viewpoints closer between us and the Jordanian brothers after dialogue between us and them has been halted. He also disclosed that there are other Moroccan, Saudi, and Iraqi mediations.

He added: We are eager to maintain relations with Jordan and we should not have differences nor allow our differences with the United States to be an object of disagreement between us and Jordan.

In his statement to our radio, 'Arafat expressed his readiness to leave for the United States in order to explain the Palestinian people's question if the opportunity is made available to him. He also disclosed a retreat in the U.S. position in the last few hours of the Amman talks.

Interview: U.S. 'Errors'

JN242035 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Huda Tawfiq in Cairo; date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Huda Tawfiq] What really happened during all the Palestinian-Jordanian-U.S. moves?

['Arafat] We were given to understand by the Jordanian side, which was like a channel between us and the U.S. side, that the Americans were insisting that the PLO recognize [UN Resolution] 242 and that they were using the word "unclouded," meaning that this recognition should be very clear. There would be nothing (?in return) for this recognition. If the PLO did this, the United States would be prepared to extend, or rather agree — because it is not the United States which extends the invitation

— that the UN secretary general could extend an invitation ot the PLO to attend an international conference.

This contains certain errors. The first U.S. error is that the Americans were exposed when His Majesty King Husayn revealed what was presented to the PLO. They said: King Husayn has not revealed all that we have proposed to him. The Americans said: We informed the king that there is an Israeli position in regard to the U.S. position and that the Israeli position has the power of veto concerning attendance of the PLO and its [not further identified]attendance. We were not informed of this.

Another thing is that the United States does not have absolute power in terms of ordering or giving views to the UN secretary general. The secretary general submits to two powers: The first is the General Assembly and the second is the Security Council. The United States is 1 of 15 UN Security Council members and 1 of 5 permanent members having veto power.

What surprised me — and I commented on this during my visit to Turkey — is that while I was in Turkey, I was surprised that Murphy announced in a press conference that he had not received any of the three PLO formulas which we had announced that we had handed over to His Majesty King Husayn. In Ankara I said that this was untrue and inaccurate because I personally handed these formulas over to His Majesty King Husayn and I am sure his majesty must have handed them to the Americans. I also presented a copy of these formulas to President Mubarak. I also said that I would be delivering a copy of these proposals to Turkish President Evren that day.

Therefore, the Americans started retreating from their statements that they did not receive the formulas. They said that they had received them but had not made any response to them. One of these formulas reaffirms King Husayn's statement in the Rose Garden in Washington before Reagan on 29 May 1985.

[Tawfiq] Concerning the PLO'S readiness to move toward peace?
['Arafat] Of course, indubitably. And also with regard to our rights, that we are prepared to attend an effective international conference with the participation of UN Security Council permanent member states and the parties concerned in the Middle East struggle, including the PLO on an equal footing within a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, based on the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right of self-determination, and based on all the UN resolutions, not just 242 and 338.

[Tawfiq] What about the Egyptian, Iraqi, and Saudi mediations? What are their bases and in what direction do they head?
['Arafat] The Egyptian, Iraqi, Saudi, and Moroccan mediations are attempts to bring views closer between us and the Jordanian brothers now that the talks between us have stopped. We welcomed this because we are eager to maintain this relationship between us and our Jordanian brothers.

Our differences with the United States should not be a door leading at any moment to differences with our brothers in Jordan because the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship is a strategic one. When our PNC met in Algiers there was no Palestinian- Jordanian agreement, nothing of the kind. Nevertheless, we in Algiers made a strategic decision, saying that relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples are special relations and that any future relations between them must be based on a confederation. This was agreed upon in [year indistinct]. In 1985 after the PNC meeting in Amman, we reached the 11 February agreement with our brothers in Jordan. We envisaged a confederation between the Jordanian and Palestinian states.

[Tawfiq] Where have these mediations gone now?
['Arafat] We hope they will succeed. Let us be discreet about this.

[Tawfiq] What about the possibility of resuming the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue?
['Arafat] To my knowledge the dialogue has not stopped. My brothers are still in Jordan. Fatah Central Committee members, Executive Committee members, and the PNC speaker are there.

[Tawfiq] [Question indistinct]
['Arafat] This depends on the U.S. response. If the United States wants to continue its arrogance and actions, this will be outside my power and outside the power of King Husayn.

[Tawfiq] Is there no possibility that the formulas or phrases could be rewritten to make them acceptable to all sides?
['Arafat] What sides? Do you mean the United States? The United States wants to pressure the PLO in order to offer concessions to Peres before he uses [words indisticnt] in his next elections. That is how the United States views things. It uses us as a cat's-paw. It is a tragedy that the Palestinian people's national rights should be tools and documents which are used by this or that leader of by the United States to appease the Tel Aviv rulers. It is a tragedy.

[Tawfiq] Under what conditions will the PLO recognize 242?
['Arafat] If the UN Security Council member states guarantee the Palestinian people's right of self-determination within their legitimate rights as approved by international legitimacy.

[Tawfiq] Moscow has announced its readiness to guarantee a solution in conjunction with the United States and the permanent member states. Are there any close meetings between you and the USSR leaders?
['Arafat] There have been high level meetings.

[Tawfiq] Will you visit Moscow?
['Arafat] So far my schedule does not include a visit in the near future. However, there are continuous meetings between us and the Soviet leaders.

Problem is U.S. 'Intransigence'

NC250653 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0510 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat — identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar — by Cairo Radio correspondent Siham al-Buluq; place and date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Al-Buluq] Abu 'Ammar. The view during the past few years has been that Palestinian efforts up until 1 month ago relied basically on the relationship between King Husayn and Yasir

'Arafat, or between the PLO and Jordan. Now, after His Majesty King Husayn has announced the cessation of, let us not say the relationship, but consultations, what strategy will Palestinian action use in the next stage?
['Arafat] First of all, we act on the basis that the nature of these relations is strategic. The relationship between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples is unique. This was accepted by the PNC its meetings in Algiers and Amman before the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement was reached between King Husayn and myself. On this premise, and I say this so that everybody will understand, we will continue our sincere and constructive efforts to ensure the continuation of this Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. We have asked and are asking all Arab brothers to help us in this. We have not ended the dialogue: Some of our brothers — members of the Executive Committee, Central Committe members, and the PNC chairman — are still in Amman and have not ceased the dialogue with Jordan. However, as I said, the problem is not a Jordanian-Palestinian one. It is between us and the intransigence of the United States, which we are all, together with our friends, trying to overcome.

[Al-Buluq) Abu 'Ammar, whenever you give a press or radio interview or meet with an official, you are asked about Resolution 242. In this interview, I would like to hear your excellency's views on Resolution 242 and on the U.S. stand, particularly as we know that the PLO has presented three formulas for solving the problem?
['Arafat] I want to ask: Why only Resolution 242? Why do we not say ... ['Arafat changes thought]. The PLO has recognized all the international resolutions as forming an indivisible whole. We are talking about all the international resolutions. Why this insistence on only one resolution?

[Al-Buluq] Thank you, Abu 'Ammar.

Fatah's Khalaf: Jordan-PLO Accord 'Waste of Time'

GF241220 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
24 Mar 86 pp 1, 13

[Excerpt] Manama — In statement to *AL-ITTIHAD*, Salah Khalaf [Abu Iyad], Fatah Central Committee member stated that the organization began exchanges with Syria last year. He affirmed that these exchanges now continue, stressing that the organization would try to reach something of an understanding with Syria based on its own principles. He added that they have not yet reached a practical step toward realizing Syrian-Palestinian reconciliation.

He noted that Syria's condition to remove 'Arafat from the leadership of the organization as a basis for reconciliation no longer holds following statements by President Hafiz al-Asad to the French press. He affirmed that there are no conflicts among the Palestinian factions, but that the main conflict is between the organization and Syria, stressing that if reconciliation between the organization and Syria is achieved, all of the Palestinian problems would be solved.

Abu Iyad stated that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is a waste of time, because King Husayn stopped adhering to it. Abu Iyad added that the Fatah movement is willing to accept the Aden-Algiers agreement as a basis for dialogue among the Palestinian factions. He explained that the cancellation of Amman agreement and the Cairo announcement can take place at a new PNC session.

Over $21 Billion Provided as Arab Assistance

GF241110 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English
24 Mar 86 p 15

[Text] Loans and assistance provided by eight Arab funds and financial institutes to Arab and other developing countries reached $21.95 billion between 1973-85.

By the end of 1985, a total of 1,722 financing operations were concluded in 100 developing countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and elsewhere.

The contributions of these funds were varied, with the share of the Islamic Development Bank reaching $4.530 billion, an equivalent of 20.7 percent of the overall loans.

The Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development granted loans valued $1.080 billion, 4.9 percent of the overall loans.

The OPEC Fund for International Development granted $1.987 billion, 9.1 percent of the total credit.

Loans by the Saudi Fund for Development were valued at 4.882 billion or 22.2 percent of the total loans.

The Iraqi Fund for External Development granted loans valued at $1.733 billion or 7.9 percent, the Arab fund for economic and social development $2.335 billion, equal to 10.6 percent, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development $4.722 billion or 21.5 percent, and the Arab bank for Economic Development in Africa $6.81 billion or 3.1 percent.

The infrastructure sector, including transportation and communications, power, water and sewerage in developing countries, received financial support reaching $12.5 billion of the total operations. Production sectors such as agriculture and livestock, industry and mining, received $7.12 billion while other sectors received $2.30 billion.

Arab countries received $11.25 billion (723 operations or 51.3 percent of the total operations extended). African countries received $4.20 billion or 19.1 percent, Asian countries got $6.03 billion or 27.5 percent and Latin American countries received $365 million or 1.7 percent.

GCC Secretary General Bisharah Grants Interview

LD211749 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT
21 Mar 86

[Interview with 'Abdallah Bisharah, GCC secretary general, by unidentified presenter; date, place not specified — recorded; first paragraph is studio introduction]

[Text] 'Abdallah Bisharah, GCC secretary general, left Morocco this morning following a visit during which he had talks with a number of his majesty's ministers. Bisharah spoke on the results of his visit to Morocco and the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war in light of the Iranian attack on Al-Faw, in addition to the efforts of the GCC countries to confront the developments in the region, especially the state of Kuwait, which is the most [word indistinct] because of its geographical position adjoining Iraq.

[Question] Mr Secretary General, we follow continuously the developments of the war between Iraq and Iran and the dangers which these developments have brought, especially after the Iranian attack on the Al-Faw region where fierce battle are raging now. Is it possible to consider that your current visit to Morocco is linked with these developments?

[Bisharah] I would like to say how happy I am to be leading a delegation of the general secretariat of the GCC on a visit to Morocco at the generous invitation of the Moroccan Government. Frankly, it was by chance that the recent developments in the Gulf region coincided with my visit to sister Morocco. I did not come here because of these developments; rather, we are here in response to a generous invitation. [words indistinct] I found it an occasion for putting the officials of the sister Moroccan Government in the picture regarding the nature of the developments witnessed in the Gulf lately. I clarified the situation during my talks with the officials, and I acquainted the Moroccan officials with the nature of these developments and their dangers. I also acquainted them with the measures taken by the GCC countries to confront these developments. It pleases me to say we are proud and happy and appreciate the attitude of Morocco toward these developments, the attitude which was clarified by His Majesty King Hassan II during his press conference.

[Question] Yes, we learned that some newspapers in the United Arab Emirates have called for the holding of an Arab-Islamic summit to hear the views of Iraq and Iran and draw up a plan to end the war between the two countries. Has the GCC studied a proposal of this kind?

[Bisharah] In the GCC we believe that diplomatic action should not be confined to one channel; rather, it should be diversified and should reach the widest scope, benefiting from every channel. I cannot say whether such a proposal was studied in detail. What was studied in light of the latest developments is how to find a means of dealing with the latest events. We have not excluded any channel possible of benefiting us, be it bilateral relations, or traditional diplomatic means. We must not hesitate to benefit from any possible channel in order to contain the effects of the Iraqi-Iranian war and to deal with it. Let it be clear that the GCC ministerial council has not studied this issue in detail [words indistinct]; rather, it studied the possibility of using all the channels in order to deal with the latest developments.

[Question] Mr Secretary General, how much understanding, cohesion and coordination is there among the GCC members for confronting future developments in the region, especially since the dangers of the war have become an open threat to Kuwait, a neighbor of Iraq. We notice that the Iranian Navy is carrying out piratical operations against Kuwaiti merchant ships in the Gulf.

[Bisharah] I say to you frankly that the Gulf countries are facing a situation which is not ordinary; an unusual situation should be dealt with by unusual means. Therewfore, security is the top priority now in the coordination among the members. They have adopted coordinated, protective measures to deal with the latest developments. Also, they took coordinated steps in the diplomatic context. The GCC members strive for solving problems through peaceful means [words indistinct] and aim to live in peace and respect charters, including international law and the UN Charter. They also resort to diplomacy in its capacity as an effective way of dealing with problems. Inevitably, the GCC has escalated its diplomatic contacts. It is possible to say that the GCC members up to now have dealt wisely with the latest developments [words indistinct] and with effective methods which for the past 2 weeks have facilitated the reduction of tension. We have great trust in our good intentions, credibility and the contacts we have achieved throughout the world.

In short, there is coordination on the latest developments. We hope, God willing, that the Gulf region will witness stability and calm, which will deliver it from danger and the specter of foreign intervention — which would not be useful to any of us. Thank you.

Joint Forces Shell Lahd Positions Near Sidon

JN241811 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese fighters shelled several positions of the Zionist Lahd's militia in Al-'Ayshiyah, southeast of Sidon, at dawn today. A statement by the joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces said that more than 30 Katyusha missiles, as well as rockets and artillery shells, were fired at the positions of these militia, causing several fires in the area and killing or wounding several of the agent elements.

Conference Suspended Without 'Firm Decision'

To Meet Again 15 April

AU241322 Paris AFP in English 1318 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 24 (AFP) — The OPEC ministerial conference was suspended Monday without any firm decision.

Algerian sources said the ministers agreed to meet again on April 15. Other sources said a statement would be issued stressing the need for cutbacks in a bid to prop up prices. The sources said the statement would contain no reference to a temporary ceiling of 14 million barrels a day discussed by the ministers since the weekend.

According to these sources, the statement was likely to emphasize the need for continued consultations.

To Defend $28 Oil Price

LD241653 Vienna OPECNA in English 1442 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 24 Mar. 86 (OPECNA) — The 77th (extraordinary) meeting of the OPEC conference, which started here on 16 March, was adjourned today until 15 April.

A press statement issued today said:

"After having deliberated at length on the present market situation and the measures to be taken to restore stability in the world oil market, the 77th (extraordinary) meeting of the conference, which met in Geneva, Switzerland, from 16 to 24 March, 1986, decided to adjourn its meeting and to reconvene on 15 April, 1986, in order to allow enough time for OPEC heads of delegations to consult their respective governments, as well as with other oil producing exporting countries." OPEC sources said the venue of the meeting would be announced later.

The OPEC oil ministers were joined last week by delegations from five non-OPEC countries -- Angola, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico and Oman — who, after extensive exchanges, pledged cooperation and support for the organization's efforts to stabilize the oil market and strengthen prices.

The 18 oil producing countries also agreed to defend the oil price at 28 dollars a barrel. OPEC conference president Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti told reporters Friday [21 March] that "all necessary efforts" would be made to gradually lift the present price to the desired level.

Dato Rastam Hadi of the Malaysian delegation said Saturday: "We will support OPEC efforts by taking actions to ensure that the aim of stabilizing the oil market and strengthening the price is realized."

The 77th conference also considered a report prepared by a group of experts from member countries, set up earlier last week to reassess the technical aspects of the world oil supply and demand situation for 1986. The group was headed by OPEC Deputy Secretary General Dr Fadhil al-Chalabi.

The extraordinary meeting was preceded by meetings of both the OPEC ministerial executive council and the market monitoring committee.

No Cutback Agreement

AU241343 Paris AFP in English 1337 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 24 (AFP) — Ministers from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) failed Monday to agree on a cutback in crude oil production, as the 13 member countries differed on how to share out a proposed reduction of three to 3.5 million barrels a day among them.

Gabon's deputy oil minister, Augustin Hervo-Akendengue, said the current OPEC conference, which opened here on March 16, was officially suspended. He said the ministers intended to resume their talks on April 15.

Several delegations said overnight they had to consult their governments. It was not immediately clear whether the resumed talks would be held in Geneva.

Attempt Made To Finalize Measures

LD241117 Vienna OPECNA in English 0952 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 24 Mar. 86 (OPECNA) — OPEC oil ministers have gone into session this morning in an attempt to finalize measures to stabilize the oil market.

The ministers, who began the 77th (extraordinary) meeting of the OPEC conference on Sunday, 16 March, are believed to have reached a consensus in principle on reduced production, but sources said they were still working out the issue of individual country quotas.

The five non-OPEC countires — Angola, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico and Oman — which attended the Geneva meeting in response to an OPEC invitation, have agreed to extend their cooperation to measures the organization might adopt to strengthen prices and stabilize the market.

The meeting, now in its ninth day, is being chaired by OPEC Conference President Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, Venezuelan minister of energy and mines.

Iraq 'Not Ready to Bargain' On Quota

AU241933 Paris AFP in English 1923 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 24 (AFP) — Ramzi Husayn, chief Iraqi delegate to the just-ended OPEC conference here, Monday [24 March] said Iraq was "not ready to bargain" on its demand for a 13.1 per cent quota of "any level of OPEC production or ceiling."

In an interview with AFP, he said the fighting between Iraqi and Iranian forces in Faw was "limited" and had no impact on Iraq's oil production.

Nor had it influenced the talks here of oil ministers of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, he added.

Mr. Ramzi, who stood in for Iraq's oil minister Qasim Taqi al-'Uraybi at the conference here, said Iraq now has a crude oil production capacity exceeding five million barrels a day — four times the production quota assigned to it under OPEC's Vienna decisions four years ago.

He said Iraq had "agreed to accept" a quota of 1.2 million barrels a day "on the condition that it would be increased as soon as our export facilities allowed us to do so." Iraq's exports via its Gulf terminals were blocked at the start of the Iran-Iraq war in September 1980.

Iraqi output has risen to an average of 1.7 million barrels a day in the past quarter following the commissioning of a new pipeline via Saudi Arabia half a year ago. This is roughly one-tenth of OPEC's recent production level estimated at 17.5 million barrels per day.

"We are disappointed that some member countries are not accepting the obligations of the (1983) London meeting which recognized that Iraq's quota of 1.2 million barrels a day was a temporary one," Mr. Ramzi said.

The proposal discussed here — but rejected by Iraq — would have maintained the Iraqi quota at about 1.2 million barrels a day, out of a total OPEC production limited to 14 million.

Iran objected to this proposal too because it would have raised the Iraqi share by one percentage point to about 8.5 per cent of the total.

Mr Ramzi said 13.1 per cent would be "a right share," based on such criteria as Iraq's oil reserves, production, historical trends, population and financial needs.

He said the 13 delegations were returning home for consultations with their governments with "many scenarios in their pockets," implying various production ceilings. "Fourteen million barrels a day is the most likely," he said.

Mr. Ramzi said the recess — the ministers are resuming their talks next April 15 — "will give time to clarify and for some to rethink their positions."

Talks Said Hurt by Political Links to Gulf War

NC231238 Paris AFP in English 1216 GMT 23 Mar 86

[By Jan Kristiansen]

[Text] Geneva, March 23 (AFP) — A political stalemate linked to the Gulf war held up OPEC oil ministers' talks here today as Mani Ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah of the United Arab Emirates said they had a "fifty-fifty per cent" chance of returning home with agreed policies to reverse the fall of crude prices.

Mr al-'Utaybah made the remark as the ministers resumed their talks in the seclusion of an 18th-floor suite at a Geneva hotel.

But asked whether they might leave without an agreement, he replied, "yes, everything is possible."

Most of the 13 delegations here are apprehensive that failure to produce at least some measure of concrete results could send the oil market into a tailspin with even more damaging effects on OPEC and its non-OPEC allies alike, conference sources said.

The ministers held a one-hour closed session, then recessed for an hour. There was no immediate explanation.

Ministerial sources say the 13 member countries accept the idea that OPEC as a whole will have to make significant cuts in crude oil output from the recent level of about 17 million barrels a day (MBD) in order to turn round the underlying downtrend in oil prices.

Proposals to cut production to between 14 and 15 MBD were discussed in private consultations overnight, according to several sources.

But agreement on a meaningful reduction depends on whether the ministers are able to sort out the tricky question of how to distribute the cuts among the member countries.

This is directly tied in with the war between fellow OPEC members Iran and Iraq, which is now in its sixth year.

For Iraq has made it clear that it is not willing to revert to the 1.2 MBD quota allocated to it under the 16 MBD OPEC production ceiling set in October 1984. It argues that its traditional production capacity was much higher, and that a new pipeline via Saudi Arabia has enabled it to boost output to 1.7 MBD since the autumn of last year.

Iran, on the other hand, has threatened to produce two additional barrels for each barrel of crude pumped by Iraq in excess of its 1.2 MBD quota.

"The problem is not setting a ceiling but allocating a quota within that ceiling," Kuwait's Oil Minister Sheikh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah told Arab reporters overnight.

Libyan Oil Secretary Fawzi al-Shakshuki told AFP Saturday night that the latest compromise proposals aimed at circumventing the deadlock over permanent quota adjustments by setting "provisional quotas for the next six months."

Delegates meanwhile declined to confirm a report from Qatar that the ministers had settled for reducing OPEC output to 14 MBD over the coming three months .

Sheikh 'Ali al-Khalifah was meanwhile quoted as saying that if OPEC countries failed to conclude an agreement now "then we will be forced to strike a deal in two months — but all of us will be losers by then."

In Moscow, meanwhile, the Communist Party daily *PRAVDA* said the current oil market crisis was part of a "carefully planned offensive" by the capitalist countries intended to "weaken and break" OPEC.

The Soviet Union, which is the world's biggest oil producer, has increased its sales on the Western market over the past few years and oil traders say it has contributed to the present oversupply. But its sales have fallen off since the beginning of the year.

BAHRAIN

AL-ADWA' Urges OPEC To Find Solution to Oil Prices

GF220823 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0800 GMT 22 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Manama, 22 Mar (WAKH) — In Bahrain, the weekly newspaper *AL-ADWA'* calls on the OPEC extraordinary ministerial council conference in Geneva to reach results to which OPEC members will adhere and through which the required coordination can be reached to bring oil prices to a reasonable level acceptable to both producers and consumers.

In its editorial today, *AL-ADWA'* says that what is required is to hold negotiations with difficulties in convincing these countries of the use of coordination and cooperation after Britain and Norway refused this. This shows these countries' ill intentions and plotting to break OPEC unity and weaken the economy of other OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producing countries.

In conclusion, *AL-ADWA'* asserts that the challenges posed by the current crisis require OPEC member countries to make sacrifices and commitments that may appear difficult to implement at the beginning but whose results will benefit all OPEC countries by reviving the world economy from its current slump.

KUWAIT

National Assembly Debates Administrative Reforms

GF241134 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 23 Mar 86 p 5

[By Amir 'Abd Sa'ud]

[Excerpts] Kuwait's National Assembly completed its debate on administrative reforms of the public sector at a special meeting yesterday presided over by the speaker, Ahmad al-Sa'dun.

The deputies called on the government to take "decisive steps" to develop and reform the administration and end corruption.

Deputy Muhammad al-Murshid, who opened the debate, warned against discrimination between Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti employees, pointing out that many expatriates performed their duties honestly and wanted to serve the country. "We should not consider them responsible for problems," he added.

He said that corruption was long standing and had many aspects such as poor productivity which resulted in wasting public money and ignoring the rights of the public and insulting them which forced people to seek influential contacts to complete their work.

He asked: "How can we expect employees to be diligent while their superiors are careless?"

If senior officials were not punctual, the lower staff would also not come on time, he said.

Deputy al-Murshid said that giving more than one post to an official was one of the reasons for corruption.

He pointed out that many youths were jobless and could hold the posts given to one man.

Deputy Mubarak al-Duwayla said that many promotions and decisions were taken to benefit certain people.

Deputy al-Duwayla said the government still insisted on appointing unqualified people to high posts.

He said that one reason for administrative corruption was the weak control and follow up of the work of officials and employees. He said that a CID [Central Investigation Department] officer had told him they arrested many smugglers and hashish and liquor addicts every day, but they were released by a telephone call.

Deputy Jasim al-'Awn said that corruption in the administrative sector included using public posts for personal benefit and ignoring public interests, awarding tenders to companies owned by government officials or their relatives, taking bribes, using office hours for personal work, giving promotions and allowances to relatives and friends, mistreating people who came to complete formalities, red-tape, and lack of a good example by department heads.

The Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid al-Rashid, pointed out that the government shared the deputies views on administrative reforms, adding that the expansion the country had witnessed over the past few years made the government explore ways to develop and modernize the administration.

He said that education was a basic priciple for the modernization of administration, adding that education and administrative reforms students should be guided to the educational institutions that made them productive and effective.

Crown Prince Addresses Rally in Al-Jahra'

LD242341 Kuwait KUNA in English 1954 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 24 (KUNA) — H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah reiterated Monday that Kuwait would not be intimidated by threats and would continue its course in the service of mankind and for security, stability and prosperity of states in the Gulf region.

Addressing a mass rally in the northern governorate of Al-Jahra' this evening, organised to welcome his highness's recovery and return home, Shaykh Sa'd reminded of the historic sacrifices made by the governorate in repulsing attacks by previous invaders and of the fierce battles fought against the enemy in defence of the country.

"Let me speak in clear terms," his highness told the rally, "and reply to those serving messages of threat, intimidation and blackmail that tiny Kuwait, area and population-wise, is strong by its faith and the unity, courage and staunchness of its sons."

The people of Kuwait, Shaykh Sa'd emphasized "will not be deterred by intimidation and will press ahead with their advance, in the interest of humanity at large."

He underlined that "our hands will always remain stretched to all those who want to talk and cooperate with us for the security, wellbeing, stability and prosperity of states in this region."

"In the meantime," Shaykh Sa'd cautioned, "we will reciprocate to those harbouring animosity or peace to us."

Speeches were delivered during the rally, praising government efforts to develop the country and ensure the citizen a decent life in addition to a show of folkfore dances and musical parades, reflecting people's joy at the safe return of his highness after a period of medication abroad.

OMAN

Oil Minister on Readiness To Cooperate

GF241719 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Muscat, March 24 (WAKH) — Omani Oil and Minerals Minister Sa'id Ahmad al-Shanfari affirmed that Oman's participation in OPEC and non-OPEC countries oil ministers meeting came within the framework of its keenness to study the best means of sucking the huge surplus in the international oil market and restore the previous price situations.

In a statement published by Omani newspaper *'UMAN*, Mr al-Shanfari denied that OPEC asked Oman or the other non-OPEC four countries to cut down their production capacity, and affirmed that his country did not give any promises on this concern.

He said that Oman, as an oil producing country, is opposed to any developments on this commodity in production and price, and thus Oman will participate to urge the other non-OPEC countries, which did not participate in the meeting, for cooperation and coordination to absorb the oil inflation.

He affirmed the joint meeting held in Geneva urged the five countries to invest their distinguished relations with the other oil producing countries for cooperation and coordination and participate when possible in the next month meeting to complete the unanimous study of the cul-de-sac.

Al-Shanfari praised the positive cooperative spirit shown by the five non-OPEC countries in the joint meeting saying that OPEC has to beneft from the joint meetings outcome and to close ranks among its member states in order to prepare the way for the next meeting.

Regarding the petroleum situation in Oman, Al-Shanfari said it is "stable" and added that his country sells its petroleum with the official oil prices.

He pointed that Oman can double its production capacity but it is abided to a production of 550,000 barrels a day according to the needs of its five-year plan currently being implemented in Oman.

Oman has received several offers to buy the Omani oil, but Oman is keen to reserve its oil resource especially in such international oil circumstances, Al-Shanfari disclosed.

Asked about Oman's readiness to reduce its oil production, the Omani minister said that his country is ready to cooperate in order to narrow the current oil crisis.

SAUDI ARABIA

Cabinet Discusses OPEC, Iraq-Iran War

GF241858 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1825 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Mar (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and chief of the National Guard, chaired a Cabinet session held today.

Following the session, Dr 'Alawi Darwish Kayyal, minister of posts, telephones and telegraph and deputy information minister, made a statement to the SPA correspondent. He said: During the meeting, the Cabinet reviewed Arab and international issues, particularly those dealing with the economic and petroleum issues. In this respect, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz briefed the Cabinet on the process of the talks held during the OPEC meetings in Geneva. His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz affirmed the concern of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the importance of continuing cooperation among OPEC member countries to safeguard the organization and enable it to achieve its goals. His excellency the deputy information minister stated: The Cabinet then reviewed the Iraq-Iran war. His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz reaffirmed the Kingdom's desire for an end to the war between two Muslim sisters to avoid further bloodshed and preserve the human capabilities and military equipment to resist the joint enemy, the first to profit from this war which has created a big gap in the Islamic folds.

His Excellency Dr 'Alawi Darwish Kayyal stated that the Cabinet also urged the two Muslim sisters, Iraq and Iran, to respond to the calls of Islamic countries to end the war and turn to purposeful and constructive dialogue in the interest of Iraq and Iran in particular and of Muslims in general. His excellency the minister of posts, telephones, and telegraph and deputy information minister concluded his statement by saying: The Cabinet then reviewed various issues on the agenda and issued a number of decisions in this regard. The Cabinet also transmitted certain transactions to some committees specialized in defined instructions.

Deadlock in Arab-Israeli Peace Prospects Viewed

LD232353 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] A Palestinian official said that breaking the deadlock reached in the process of seeking a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict has become the responsibility of parties outside the region which have been preventing the arrival at a reasonable formula.

The opinion that international efforts have recently abandoned, to some extent, the continuation of the process of seeking a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict for numerous reasons — at the forefront of which is probably the fact that the Israeli enemy has succeeded in its pressure on the development of events by attacking any attempt aimed at finding a just and durable peace — is justified by the fact that these efforts have reached a deadlock. The origin of this deadlock lies in the psychological constitution of the enemy which cannot coexist with peace in any way. If peace were to be achieved, Israel would lose a lot of foreign material aid either from countries which support it or from Jewish organizations and communities in the world because the Israeli entity does not try to be self-sufficient. This factor incites the leaders of the Zionist entity to the necessity of continuing tension and war, to secure the continuation of foreign aid which is considered to be essential for the survival of Israel.

As it is known, the situation has reached a deadlock at the limits of the demand made to the PLO to recognize the UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as a basis for giving the PLO a place in any negotiations discussing the future of finding a solution to the Palestinian rights. Such a demand causes a certain fear in the organization with regard to its role in the negotiations if it recognizes the two UN Security Council resolutions. From the organization's point of view such a fear is justified.

The alternative idea represented by the international conference which was proposed by the United States and the USSR and whose revival is called for by the PLO appears acceptable; however, it has been exposed to pressures which led to it being frozen. The process of seeking peace cannot evolve by asking a party to relinquish everything in exchange for nothing. The Palestinians are exposed to this to make them accept the situation. Thus, it appears that a long time will pass before the deadlock will be broken. It has become clear that any forward movement is conditional on the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Industry Minister Regrets EEC's Taxes on Products

GF211153 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0615 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Al-Dammam, 21 Mar (WAKH) — 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Zamil, Saudi minister of industry and electricity, has expressed regret over the EEC's stand imposing customs taxes on Saudi products.

In a statement published today in the Saudi newspaper *AL-YAWM*, the Saudi minister underlined the importance of coordination and understanding in this connection. He noted understanding between the two parties is the best way to deal and that there is no need to reciprocate "because they have their interests and we have ours."

The Saudi minister of industry and electricity urged the GCC countries not to levy taxes on Saudi products. He noted that it would become clear to them that "the best way to preserve their interests is to not levy taxes and to treat our products the same way we treat theirs."

He stated that his ministry would complete the projects under construction. There are more than 200 industrial projects under construction and will be investments of about 7 billion Saudi riyals by Saudi businessmen over the next 2 years.

UAE

Mauritanian, Maldivian Ministers Arrive

GF241656 Manama WAKH in English 1510 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Mar (WAKH) — Mauritanian Minister of Finance and Economy Mohamed Salim Ould Lekhal arrived here today on a short visit to the UAE.

During his stay, Lekhal will hold talks with officials here on means of promoting relations between the two countries.

Maldives Foreign Minister Fathulla Jameel also arrived here today coming from Amman, Jordan, on a visit to the UAE.

Jameel will also hold talks with officials here on ways to boost bilateral relations.

The two ministers were received at the airport by Ya'qub al-Kindi, acting undersecretary at the Foreign Ministry and other officials.

Mubarak Receives Attorney General Al-Jindi

NC241229 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — Today President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Attorney General Counselor Muhammad 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jindi, following the conclusion of the investigations into the recent riots.

Lufti on Post-Riots Economic, Social Measures

PM211156 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 14 Mar 86 pp 12, 13

[Interview with Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lufti by Muhammad Zayid in Cairo; date not given; passages in italics are editorial insertions by *AL-AHRAM* of extracts from Mubarak "assignments" to Prime Minister Lutfi]

[Text] [Zayid] A question persisted in my mind at the outset of the dialogue because of its being reiterated by the public opinion, and I said to prime minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi:

How can we understand correctly the president of the Republic's entrustment of seven assignments to the prime minister in the wake of the latest riots, with most of these assignments defining what had already been contained in the president's letter of designation of 4 September 1985, inviting the prime minister to form the Cabinet? At the time, the president had instructed that steps be taken without delay to tackle the problems facing our progress. The president introduced his seven assignments in his latest speech by saying that there exists a popular feeling that he understands and to which he responds and that enough time has passed to draw up detailed plans capable of implementing the ambitious reform program.
[Lutfi] I would like to point out here that it was natural for the president to put his finger on these seven points because he lives and coexists with the masses and feels their hopes and pains.

Some of these assignments, if not all of them, were actually contained in the 4 September 1985 letter of designation entrusting me to form the Cabinet. The fact is that the current Cabinet has actually drawn up plans and programs to carry out these assignments. The president's latest speech is understood to mean that he is demanding prompt implementation so that the masses may feel truly tangible results, especially in these spheres. I had planned to send letters to the gentlemen Cabinet members as soon as the president concluded his speech. However, I went with his excellency the president to inaugurate the Cairo International Fair and the visit lated until 1900. At 0800, the following morning, Sunday, 9 March, I sent a letter to the gentlemen Cabinet members asking them to reexamine the programs already formulated in order to enhance the production rates as much as possible so that the masses may feel the results of these plans and programs in the shortest time possible. I set the hour of 1200 of Wednesday, 19 March, as the date for a special Cabinet meeting to discuss the plans and programs modified in accordance with the assignments given by the president's speech to the People's Assembly and Consultative Council. I decided that, if necessary, the session would continue through the following day or the day after until we completed approving the modified programs aimed at prompt implementation and declared them immediately.

[Zayid] At this point, I said to the prime minister:
Does the matter require every so often the modification and renewal of assignments that represent extant fundamental objectives, with us saying that these assignments define the method of work for the coming whereas we do not know when the previous phase ended in order that a new phase may start? Is there not continuity and perpetuity in the Cabinet's performance within the framework of a comprehensive program?
[Lufti] We do certainly have a plan and the plan has executive programs on which there is followup. But there is also what is called plan flexibility. This means that when we draw up a 5-year plan — and we are now working on the 4th year of the 5-year plan plan — we cannot truly predict 100 percent of what will happen in the 5 years. This is why the modification is made when unexpected circumstances develop.

We were surprised in January by an extraordinary dinary daily drop in oil prices. I defy anybody in the world to say that he could have taken this drop into account or expected it 4 years ago. This is an international development beyond our control and by which we have been surprised. To adapt to this development, some modifications have to be made. Let the citizen rest assured that we have our plan, that this plan has its executive programs, and that the problem is confined to the sudden developments confronting us. I wish to point out here what has been accomplished in the past 6 months, because the current Cabinet had been in office for 6 months and 4 days when the president made his speech. Even though this is a short period in the life of peoples, nations, and states and despite the unopportune circumstances and the extraordinary problems that have confronted the Cabinet for reasons beyond its control, including, for example, the hijacking of the cruise ship and the Egypt Air airliner, the sharp, rapid and sudden drop in oil prices and the latest riots, I say that despite all this the cabinet has been able, God be thanked, to achieve numerous accomplishments. I will try to confine myself here to these accomplishments pertaining to the assignments given by the president's speech.

Assignment One:
President Mubarak: "Adopt immediate steps capable of achieving greater rationalization of spending so that we may be actually able to make up for the drop in revenues resulting from the drop in world oil prices. This is a basic issue that can withstand no delay."

[Lutfi] I will note in this regard the reduction of the external trvel allowance by one-third, and by two-thirds in the case of residence at government premises or resthouses and in the case of the party to which the worker is sent or delegated shouldering all the expenses. I will note my decision to reduce the maximum allowance set by the state, by public legal status persons, by the banks and, by other public sector companies for individuals representing them on the executive boards of one or more parties from 12,000 to 6,000 pounds annually. I will also note the new rules regulating the travel of delegations to the outside world so that a delegation may include no more than three members, whereas the number amounted to 5 or 10 members previously. I will further note in connection with spending rationalization the directive issued to the economic circles, companies, and banks that negotiations concerning agreements or purchase contracts with the outside world be held in Egypt and that the supplying party shoulder the cost of coming to and negotiating in Egypt so as to rationalize the use of foreign currency.

We have also banned the publication of officials' photographs in the newspapers in the form of paid advertisements. The citizens have perhaps noticed that the prominent officials' photographs did not, for the first time, appear in the papers for days and days after inauguration of the Cairo International Fair. I will also note the instructions issued to put new controls on travel for treatment abroad at state expense and the efforts exerted to reduce by 25 percent the number of workers in our technical offices abroad, our embassies, and our consultates. To crystallize the principle of linkage between society's needs and the various spheres of scientific research undertaken by our research institutions, I have asked the ministries to familiarize me with their requirements in this regard so that these requirements may be presented to the research institutions to meet them in order to rationalize the expenditures made in this connection and to utilize the expertise available in our research institutions. This is a point frequently raised by the press, which wonders why we enlist the service of foreign consulting firms when we have the Scientific Research Academy, the universities and the research centers.

[Zayid] And the total sum of what has been achieved by this kind of rationalization?
[Lutfi] The truth is that we cannot calculate it because the decrees come in succession and are implemented and produce their results gradually. But it is definite that the savings will appear with the start of the new budget on 1 July 1986. This point will get special consideration.

Assignment Two:
President Mubarak: "The government decrees that the elimination all the obstacles impeding the forward surge of the private sector and of investments generally must be comprehensive and complete to give a real forward surge and full confidence that we feel on the homeland's soil. If we appeal to the capitalists' patriotism, then we must at the same time plant in their hearts confidence, reassurance, and peace that leave no place for apprehensions or doubts on their part."

[Lutfi] We will certainly work to develop and issue comprehensive and complete decrees for the forward surge of the private sector and will work to implement them expeditiously. But this does not deny that some decrees have been achieved and these can be compiled in *AL-AHRAM* today so that they may give the citizens a picture of the accomplishments. A directive has been issued entitling all the projects set up within the new cities to the established 10-year tax exemptions and to complete tax and customs fees exemptions for the equipment and machinery imported for such projects. What is important here is that any project set up in accordance with the Investment Authority's law No 43 of 1974, is given by this law a 5-year tax exemption but no exemption for customs fees on imported machinery.

An investor setting up a project in the new cities would tell them [public investment authority] that the reconstruction and new communities law allows him a 10-year tax exemption and an exemption for customs fees on machinery and the Investment Authority would respond that he is subject to law No 43. He would then go to the New Communities Authority and they would tell him: You have your approval from the Investment Authority.

I settled this issue in the first days after formation of the Cabinet. We said: As long as a project is set up in the new cities, then regardless of whether it is subject to the Investment Authority's law No 43 or to other laws, he will enjoy the tax exemption and the customs fees exemption for machinery for 10 years. The private investment sector was very pleased. We have made a decision in the Cabinet not to change the economic policies until we conduct a profound study with the circles affected by any such change. This has been one of the private sector's very important demands. We have also taken a decision to reconsider the customs tariff in order to protect local production, to encourage local industry, and to also encourage investment in agriculture, industry, housing, and tourism. The Ministry of Finance has promised to complete the amendments in the customs tariff within a short period. In the wake of the president's latest instructions, I immediately asked the minister of finance to exert efforts to complete the new customs tariff as soon as possible.

One of the most important decisions made is perhaps the decision to require the investor to submit the economic feasibility study on his project to one authority only. God willing, we will soon apply this decision to land reclamation and will surprise the citizens with establishing a land reclamation investment bureau after sufficient preparations are made for it. On top of all of this, we have formed a committee to study the requests of the importers harmed by the 5 January decrees in order to achieve justice and encourage investment. We have also approved an agreement on gold prospecting that will yield a revenue of no less than 10 million pounds annually. We have further approved easy-term loans at 4-percent interest for the projects of agricultural firms. I have set up at the premier's office a bureau to solve the investors' problems and have amassed for it a number of excellent economists. This bureau has been able to settle no fewer than 50 problems for investors recently and we have numerous letters of thanks from these investors.

We have formed a joint committee from the government and businessmen to exchange opinions on the economic conditions and policies. It is headed by Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, the deputy prime minister and minister of planning. I have issued a decree stipulating that representatives of the public sector be included in this committee's membership. So, it is no longer the businessmen's committee, as some people say, but the business sector committee, including both the private and the public sectors.

Assignment Three
President Mubarak: "Bolster the public sector, free it of the shackles imposed on it, and enable it to modernize its production instruments and to absorb modern technology."

[Lutfi] We will work to achieve this objective as soon as possible. However, it is certain that we have made a considerable stride on this path. We have formed a working team to review the conditions of loss-making firms in which the public sector companies are shareholders, to analyze the causes of these losses and find out whether they are due to reasons beyond the control of those managing these firms or due to mismanagement or mistakes in the economic feasibility studies, and to present its conclusions to the Higher Investment and Economic Affairs Committee. We have also issued a decree stipulating for the first time in Egypt's history publication of the public sector companies' budgets because the people own the public sector. A study on the ideal method to manage the public sector has been launched and the outcome of this study will be presented to the Higher Policies Committee to make its decision on it.

To open the door of job promotion to craftsmen so that they may rise to grade one instead of being frozen in their current position in grade two, I have issued a decree to modify the criteria for classifying the jobs of the public sector workers to make it possible to add a formal level to the grade one jobs to be named "supervisor, extraordinary head craftsman."

I have also issued a directive to the public sector companies, which are meeting these days to prepare their plan budgets, to set reasonable figures for their targets because what used to happen in the past is that they set small figures for their target to say afterwards that they exceeded the tgaret and to demand incentives. I have told them that this approach is unacceptable. The public sector must develop and must set ambitious goals for itself. I have sent a letter to all the ministers controlling the public sector companies and asked them to instruct the chairman of every loss-making company to send me immediately a study pointing out why the company is making losses and the recommendations for a cure. We will hold a conference to discuss the conditions of the loss-making companies in each sector separately and to formulate solutions for this chronic problem that has persisted for years and years. We are making preparations for the purpose and we will implement the recommendations expeditiously.

[Zayid] I said to the prime minister: The people are suffering between the state's declared objectives and the way in which the executive agencies actually deal with them, as if these agencies are detached from the state policy. This is evident, for example, in the reclamation of new lands for which the state declares a certain price whereas the governorates demand a price tens of times higher. The same goes for construction in the new cities. The state offers land at utility cost whereas the housing companies deal with the people in a commercial manner, seeking to make the biggest profit possible.
[Lutfi] I beg any citizen who finds a gap between what I personally and my colleagues the ministers declare and what the executive agencies do to notify me immediately and he will get a final decision immediately.

Assignment Four:
President Mubarak: "Formulate an unconventional tourism policy. If the latest riots will affect the tourism revenues, then confronting this fact dictates a positive approach toward all the tourist-exporting sources in the various parts of the world to encourage tourist investment in Egypt."

[Lutfi] Tourism has actually been confronted with adverse circumstances, some of which I have already pointed out, such as the hijacking of the cruise ship and of the airliner or the riots in the Al-Haram area. There is no doubt that these events have affected tourism. They are uncontrollable events that have caught the government by surprise. But this does not discourage us from formulating, with utter determination and efficiency, an unconventional plan for the enhancement of tourism despite these circumstances, as the president has demanded. In the past 6 months we have adopted a number of decisions, some of which have led to settling the argument over the control of Cairo Airport. This argument had led to harmful consequences and we have decided that the Cairo Airport Authority will continue to be under the control of the minister of tourism and civil aviation and that all the agencies within the airport will continue to be under the control of the authority chairman. The multiplicity of control had undermined the performance level.

As for the fund for the revenues of the additional fee on air travel tickets, a decision was made to form an executive board for this fund, comprised of the ministers of finance, local government, premiership affairs, culture and tourism. This council has met repeatedly and discussed the requests made by the authorities concerned to finance projects for environmental protection, for beautifying some historical areas and for developing the public sector hotels. It has made decisions whose implementation has already started. We have also agreed to form a new tourist limousine company different from the limousine company that was under the control of the Egyptian Tourism [company], whose control then shifted to the Nasir Bank and which is faltering at present. We are conducting a feasibility study on the new company so that it may begin immediately. It will be a "private sector" company for the sake of good management and expeditious performance.

[Lutfi] We have also begun to study domestic tourism, especially in the wake of the latest blow dealt to foreign tourism. At a meeting of the Higher Tourism Council, we adopted several decisions calling for purging the airports, for simplifying their procedures, for keeping them clean and for supplying them with locally manufactured products. We have also made a decision to study the possibility of reviving Asyut Airport via a line linking Cairo with Asyut and the New Valley. This line will go into operation shortly. We have, moreover, set next July as the final date for inaugurating Terminal 2 at Cairo International Airport, considering that this building is 2 years behind schedule.

Furthermore, we have reexamined the conditions for leasing tourist sites. The law stipulated that the lease contract be for 3 years only and this stipulation drove away those who wanted to invest in this activity. We have now extended the period to 10 years, while stipulating that the rent will be increased by a certain percentage annually. We will thus see an upsruge in opening public and tourist businesses with top-level furnishings, not at the level we now see. We have made a decision to set up tourist centers on the main expressways. We will begin with the Cairo-Alexandria desert highway, building a fuel and service station for rapid car repairs, a cafeteria, a restaurant, a telephone [booth], a shopping center and all the other services a traveler needs, as we find in Europe and the United States.

A meeting will be held next week with the minister of tourism and Alexandria governor to take some measures concerning Alexandria beaches so as to improve and enhance their service efficiency level. We have also prepared a temporary sewerage project for Alexandria because, to be completely frank, most of the Egyptian summer vacationers went last year to Turkey, Cyprus, Greece, and the European beaches, abandoning Alexandria. The new project will be inaugurated next month and will guarantee that all of Alexandria's beaches will be clean this summer.

[Zayid] Are you considering unconventional cures to boost the export of tourists to Egypt and to overcome the consequences of the latest riots?
[Lutfi] We are actually considering a large number of measures which are being currently adopted to encourage tourism. Despite the past and recent riots, I am optimistic that tourism will return to normal very shortly. Moreover, we issued prompt decisions for rebuilding and reconstruction, and their implementation has nearly begun. Immediate compensation is paid to give the investor the confidence to come to our country and set up tourist and other projects, resting assured that should be, God forbid, be subjected to any [damaging] circumstances he will get his money back.

[Zayid] And the size of the repayable losses resulting from the latest losses?
[Lutfi] There are three committees currently receiving the requests for compensation: the Hotel Installations Committee, the Public Businesses Committee, and the Vehicles Committee. The latter has 15 days to complete its work whereas the first two committees have a month to do so. The accurate loss figures are being compiled. The estimated figures say that the losses amount to 150 million pounds.

[Zayid] Some have expected certain decisions to come as a result of the president's appeal [to the Egyptians] to spend this summer in Egypt to encourage tourism and to make up for the consequences of the latest riots?
[Lutfi] First, I add my voice to the president's voice and appeal to all the citizens who have been usually spending their summer abroad in recent years.

[Zayid] The people's question is: Are theere measures amounting to restrictions?
[Lutfi] We will impose no restrictions on travel abroad. This is not the government's tendency. Our tendency relies on the citizens' response to our appeal. The latest riots have proved that democracy is the best weapon on which we can rely to have the people respond to the government without any compulsion or coercion. Regarding the tourism issue, I am confident that the citizens will respond to the government. We resort to inducement and incentives, not restrictions.

Assignment Five:
President Mubarak: ***"Lessen the procedure in the government offices' activities concerning the citizens, such as obtaining licenses and real estate pxrmits and litigation procedures. I hope that we will lessen all the steps needed for the citizen services because I have personally heard a lot about them.***

[Lutfi] This assignment to lessen the administrative procedures and to ensure their promptness embodies in fact a fundamental point from which the citizen suffers in his daily life. Let us speak frankly. When a citizen goes to a land registration office, a post office, or a telephone office, when he renews his car license or driving license or when he deals with a passport office or with other agencies concerned with civilian affairs, he finds that the place is not properly prepared. It may be small or unclean, the official may not be present or the procedures may be multitudinous, and so forth. To deal with this situation, Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, in cooperation with a number of the gentlemen ministers — each within his jurisdiction — has drawn up a plan to develop these offices. But the matter requires some time. We have begun by establishing the so-called model office. We have opened a model land registration office and a model post office. The plan calls for transforming a number of offices in each district into model offices. But implementation is not as easy as making decisions. Development requires money. But we are moving as fast as we can. This is an opportunity for me to urge the workers of these offices to support us. They are a part of the government and, at the same time, they themselves are citizens, each of whom will one day require the services of other offices where his interests may be delayed.

[Zayid] I said to the prime minister: People don't get the state services as a right to which they are entitled, but get them either by begging for the service or buying it.
[Lutfi] I believe that I have fully defined the government position on the question of the services to which every citizen is indisputably entitled. The plan drawn up guarantees that we will never hear such things.

[Zayid] People also complain of the hardship in litigation procedures. The judiciary talk of the multiplicity of laws and of judiciary authorities and demand a comprehensive legislative reform encompassing with in its framework the application of advanced systems implemented by numerous countries, including a civil prosecution that settles minor cases and alleviates the burden of the courts, along with judiciary police who insure the prompt implementation of decisions. What has obstructed the application of these systems in our country is that they need 10 million pounds.
[Lutfi] I will tell you that the Cabinet has entrusted Counselor Ahmad 'Atiyah, the minister of justice, to examine and conduct a study on this issue. I say, frankly, that any amendment of the legislation to simplify the procedures will take some time. But I say at the same time that regardless of how much we amend the laws, we will not succeed unless the citizen cooperates with us.

Assignment Six:
President Mubarak: ***"Reexamine the crop structure so that we may put the emphasis in the old lands on achieving self-sufficiency in most of the crops connected with the people's food, with the new lands set aside for the intensive cultivation of fruits and vegetables channeled toward export."***

[Lutfi] His excellency the president is completely right on the need to reexamine the crop structure because our current problem is that the per capita share of cultivable lands is small. Moreover, if we calculate the share of the 50 million citizens of the land cultivated with grain, we would find that the situation, particularly for wheat, which can be used as a weapon to starve people and especially since the world wheat-exporting countries are comprised of five specific countries [sentence as published].

This is why the president's demand for reexamination of the crop structure is essential. The Ministry of Agriculture will submit a new crop structure to the Cabinet's coming session and we will declare this structure to the citizens.

Despite this, I should point out that agricultural production and the agricultural sector took effective steps in the preceding period. We have appropriated for agricultural guidance, which is extremely important, a sum of 5 million pounds as a service investment loan from the National Investment Bank so that agricultural guidance may move forward to achieve its objectives. We have also begun the introduction of a new method to Egyptian agriculture, namely hot house farming. All the citizens have seen on television the president's visit to such hot houses. We started with 200 hot houses and then proceeded to increase them. This encourages not only agriculture but also industry because many of our industrial companies began to produce hot houses when they felt the market demand for them. I want to make it clear to the ordinary citizen that seven or eight hot houses can be erected within a single feddan, that the production of such a feddan becomes the equivalent of the production of 7 or 8 feddans, and that an entire family can enjoy a high standard of living on its income.

The islands formed by the river silt deposits, covering a large area, are being surveyed. We will cultivate them and this will lead to an increase in production.

We have also launched a project to improve the drainage of 500,000 feddans annually and a progam to improve sugar cane production in 120,000 feddans in the Upper Egypt governorates and to improve and cultivate the fallow lands interspersing the delta and valley lands amounting to 280,000 feddans. The outcome of these activities will not, of course, materialize overnight. However, we are exerting efforts to implement promptly in accordance with the president's speech.

Assignment Seven:
President Mubarak: "Adhere carefully to the policy of constant and daily frankness in revealing the details of the economic situation through the media, acting in close cohesion with the consumer and worker masses. I hope that we will rely in this regard on the people's vigilance and their high awareness. The policy of frank revelation has proven its success and the people have responded to it, choosing of their own will their position of support for the regime, security, and law."

[Lutfi] In the first session the Cabinet, held after it was formed on 4 September 1985, we laid down for ourselves what is called the government's work constitution. It is perhaps the first time a Cabinet has committed itself to such a constitution, which contains 15 points, headed by the point of frank revelation of all the facts, regardless of how painful, to the masses because this frank revelation is the true inlet to solving our problems.

Despite the difficulties I have pointed out, we promise the people and his excellency the president that we will redouble the efforts to carry out the assignments contained in his speech. I hope that every citizen will help us achieve our plans. The fact is that I do not work alone but with the efforts of my colleagues the ministers who do their utmost and who work with utter honesty, honor, and integrity as a completely coordinated working team.

[Zayid] In frankly revealing the facts of the economic situation to the people, what are the fundamental points on which this frankness can be established? Are there new cures toward which we will be compelled and which the people must know and are sacrifices required of the people?
[Lutfi] The major fact in this frank revelation is that we are experiencing a drop in oil prices that has led and which will, by necessity, lead to a drop in the state's foreign currency revenues. The impact on this year's budget is nearly 700 million dollars and the cure needed is to adopt a number of measures that do not affect people with limited income, and I am saying it frankly.

[Zayid] And what about the issue of the subsidy and of its delivery to those who merit it? It has been subjected to discussion so frequently that we have almost come to believe that there is no solution.
[Lutfi] I agree with you that the subsidy issue has been discussed to death. I cannot say that we are still discussing it because I would be kidding myself. I, personally, as an economics professor, have had my fill of discussing it. What is happening now is not discussion but the preparation of practical measures to apply a fundamental and final solution to the subsidy problem so as to achieve two objectives:

First, insure that the subsidy is delivered only to those who merit it. Two objectives emanate from this: To give the subsidy to people with limited income and to withhold it from those with big income.

Second, to deliver the subsidy to those who merit it with ease, facility, and dignity because I am not pleased with the current situation of columns of middlewomen and of fights at the doors of the cooperatives.

[Zayid] What about the triangle of production, wages, and prices? Is it visualized to link the three sides of this triangle, considering that a country living under our conditions is in the direst need of such linkage?
[Lutfi] Certainly. This triangle is before our eyes whenever we make a decision.

[Zayid] Inflation dictates that we pause a little before the wages issue. Is it likely that the prices of certain commodities will be stabilized in the interest of people with limited income?
[Lutfi] It is likely. When an increase develops in the prices of any essential commodity, it must be countered by an increase in the incomes of the citizens who deal with this commodity because we, as a government, always take the people with limited income into our consideration. We do not condone their shouldering any new sacrifices. On the contrary, we work to raise their living standard.

Lutfi Comments on Economic Challenges Facing Egypt

NC241155 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1045 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi has stressed that Egypt has all the human, economic, and technical resources to proceed with development plans in accordance with their prescribed goals. He also said that Egypt is capable of confronting the challenges it is facing. Some of these challenges, he added, have resulted from international circumstances. For example, the drop in oil prices in world markets means that our foreign currency income will be reduced by nearly 1.2 billion dollars by next July. This came in a speech delivered by the prime minister today at the opening of the seminar of finance and banking organized by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Cairo.

In his speech, the prime minister said that Egypt is facing other challenges caused by an imbalance in the basic components of our national economy. He added that Egypt will meet these challenges by utilizing its resources in the agricultural, industrial, investment, and energy fields. He went on to say: In agriculture, Egypt is working to increase the area under cultivation by two million feddans during the next 5 years and to provide Arab land with the necessary irrigation water. In addition, we intend to bring about a vertical expansion in the use of [word indistinct] and the restructuring of crop production. In the field of industry, action is underway to increase production, both qualitatively and quantitatively, in line with the purposes for which 50 billion pounds have been invested in that sector.

Concluding his speech, the prime minister emphasized his confidence that Egypt has resources to achieve its economic targets. He added: This is due not only to our economic stability and the availability of resources but also to the peace concluded with Israel. We are working to turn this into a comprehensive peace so that constructive economic cooperation may be established among the countries and peoples of the region.

Lutfi Holds Talks With PLO's 'Arafat

NC241623 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and his accompanying delegation in his office this afternoon. Following the approximately 1-hour meeting, Yasir 'Arafat said that the discussions had been a continuation of yesterday's talks with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on Palestinian-Jordanian relations.

'Arafat expressed his thanks to the people, president, and government of Egypt for the efforts they have made to ensure that these relations continue to the benefit of both the Palestinian and Jordanian people, as well as that of the Arab nation as a whole. Responding to a question about the fate of a Palestinian draft report, which, according to an announcement made by 'Arafat during his last visit to Cairo, contained three formulas to be submitted to the United States, 'Arafat stated: We are still waiting for an official U.S. reply. The reply that I received in Amman was unofficial.

'Arafat reaffirmed the positive nature of the current U.S. stand, which, for the first time, had referred to the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. Such a position complements UN Security Council Resolution 242 on the right of the Palestinian people to express their views before any resolutions on issues concerning them are passed. MENA has also learned that the meeting dealt with efforts to promote the convening of an international conference in order to reach a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East issue.

People's Assembly Statement on Palestinian Problem

NC241316 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1106 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — At today's session, led by Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, the People's Assembly approved the joint statement by the Arab Affairs and Foreign Affairs Committees. The statement stressed that the Palestinian problem is the core and essence of the Middle East conflict and that any solution to this conflict that does not guarantee the Palestinian people's right to exercise its legitimate rights in freedom and self-determination will not establish the desired peace in this sensitive area of the world.

The statement added that the just and lasting settlement of the Middle East problem is essential for peace in the region and for stability and security for its countries and peoples. Such a settlement can be reached by a conference in which all concerned parties participate, including the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The statement appealed to the various Palestinian groups to unite their ranks and their stands, and to agree on a position that will maintain the strength and legitimacy of their struggle, the independence and effectiveness of their decision-making, and the legitimacy and credibility of the Palestinian problem.

The statement stressed the need for the Jordanian and Palestinian leaders to continue to cooperate and coordinate so as to move the search for a just solution to the Palestinian problem in the right direction. The statement expressed appreciation for the true and sincere efforts of the Egyptian leadership to maintain the impetus for the peace process and for unity on the Jordanian-Palestinian role. In conclusion, the statement appealed to the Arab brothers to look on the fateful issues from a pan-Arab perspective, and not from a viewpoint of narrow regional or personal interests, and to adhere to the pan-Arab aims within the context of mutual understanding and international legitimacy.

Ghali Interviewed on OAU Conference Results

PM240702 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 17 Mar 86 p 4

[Interview with Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign affairs Dr Butrus Ghali by Muhammad Barakat; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] I first asked Dr Ghali about the topics discussed by the OAU ministerial council in Addis Ababa and his assessment of the conference. He said that the council's agenda included many important topics and that, although the session was mainly devoted to economic, financial, and administrative affairs of the area, some political issues imposed themselves on the meeting.

He added: This session was characterized by seriousness. In the political domain the council strongly condemned the policies of South Africa and reaffirmed support for the liberation movements struggling for the liberation of Namibia and South Africa.

It also condemned Israeli policies in the occupied territories and renewed its full support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The council also urged Israel to respect the Geneva convention regarding protection of civilians in occupied territories. During the debate on the issue of peace in the Middle East the Egyptian delegation underscored the importance of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement signed on 11 February 1985, despite its recent setback, because it was a positive turning point in the interest of the cause of peace.

Question: The council discussed Arab-African cooperation. What is the truth about this cooperation? Does it exist or was it still born?
Answer: Arab-African cooperation is an important and basic issue, and the council did give it some attention. It should be noted that Egypt has been chair country of the Arab-African Cooperation Committee since the first Arab-African summit conference held in Cairo in March 1977. I do not agree that Arab-African cooperation was stillborn. The 1977 Cairo summit was very successful. It created great hopes because it laid the foundation of cooperation and solidarity between the OAU and the Arab League. From that emerged a number of establishments and organs with the special task of boosting Arab-African cooperation.

The Arab-African ministerial council has faced numerous difficulties. It was supposed to meet in Tripoli, Libya, in 1985 but it was not held because of disagreement over whether or not the Saharan Arab Republic should attend. In brief, the Arab-African establishments have not functioned properly, and as a result, Arab-African cooperation has been frozen without any significant progress.

Question: That is perhaps why I said that it was stillborn, but is there any hope of reviving it?
Answer: Arab-African cooperation has encountered some obstacles and difficulties, but in my view it is still alive.

Question: How do you assess Egyptian-Ethiopian relations after your week in Addis Ababa?
Answer: The Ethiopians with whom I met expressed good sentiments towards Egypt. I also found the officials there to be politically interested in strengthening relations and cooperation. The important meeting held last July between president Mubarak and Chairman Mengistu contributed considerably to the promotion of an atmosphere of cordiality and understanding in our relations. I met with Foreign Minister Wolde Goshu and foreign Trade Minister Chekol Wollie. I believe that there is a wide scope for Egyptian-Ethiopian cooperation.

'Abd al-Majid Leaves for Yugoslavia, Italy

NC250709 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 25 Mar (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Cairo this morning for Belgrade on a 3-day visit to Yugoslavia. In a statement before his departure, 'Abd al-Majid said that he is carrying a message from President Husni Mubarak to Yugoslav President Radovan Vlajkovic. He explained that talks during his visit will focus on issues related to the Nonaligned Movement, in view of the movement's ministerial meeting to be held in New Delhi on 16 April.

He will also discuss bilateral relations in all fields and ways of boosting them. The deputy prime minister and foreign minister added that after his visit to Yugoslavia he will go to Italy for talks with the Italian prime minister and foreign minister on bilateral relations, the Middle East issue and its developments, and current peace efforts.

Further on Visit by Soviet Parliamentary Group

Gilashvili, 'Abd al-Majid Talk

NC241312 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, today met with the Soviet parliametnary delegation, which is currently visiting Egypt. Pavel Gilashvili, vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, who is leading the delegation, stated that possible areas of bilateral cooperation were discussed at the meeting.

He added that Dr 'Abd al-Majid had shown a spirit of cooperation and friendship during the talks. The leader of the Soviet delegation pointed out that the visit to Moscow by an Egyptian economic delegation, which will begin tomorrow, Tuesday, will provide a basis for the further promotion of the already growing relations between the two countries.

Lutfi Meets Delegation

NC241519 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1437 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — Prime Minister 'Ali Lutfi received the Soviet parliamentary delegation led by Pavel Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, in his office at noon today. Following this meeting, Dr 'Ali Lutfi said that the delegation members had affirmed their country's interest in developing relations with Egypt in various fields. The Soviet Union is endeavoring to achieve a comprehensive solution for the Middle East crisis based on Israel's withdrawal from all the Arab territories which it occupied after 1967.

The members of the delegation also indicated that the Soviet Union supports the convening of an international conference to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict. Such a conference would include the participation of the United States, the Soviet Union, the permanent members of the UN Security Council, the PLO, and all other parties concerned with this issue. Concluding his statement, the prime minister noted that the discussions had also dealt with ways to promote bilateral relations in the economic and trade fields.

Wali Meets Delegation

NC241736 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister, minister of agriculture and food security, and

NDP secretary general, today received the Soviet parliamentary delegation currently visiting Cairo. Their discussions dealt with the possibilities for promoting cooperation in the fields of agriculture, animal production, and pisciculture and for exchanging missions in the area of agricultural research. The strengthening of parliamentary relations was also discussed.

MENA Reviews Statistics on Egyptian-Soviet Trade

NC231344 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0830 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) (Research and Studies Department) — Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali, minister of economy and foreign trade, will leave for Moscow on Tuesday [25 March] at the head of an economic delegation on a 1-week visit to the Soviet Union. During this visit, he will sign a trade agreement between the two countries for 1986, the overall value of which is approximately 600 million pounds sterling. Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali will also sign a long-term 5-year trade agreement.

During a visit that a Soviet delegation paid to Egypt last July, it was decided to form two committees to negotiate the details of this agreement, as well as to discuss the industrial projects in which the Soviet Union is participating, the various ways to guarantee growth in bilateral trade and economic relations, and pending financial commitments.

In Moscow, Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali is expected to discuss arrangements for payments between the two countries in order to encourage the volume of trade and the amount of exports and imports. There will also be talks on how to fix the exchange rate for the sterling accounting unit so that mutual trade will be promoted. Egypt is one of the Soviet Union's major trade partners. It is sixth among the Third World countries and second among African countries in trade exchanges with the Soviet Union.

Recent statistics on bilateral trade for the final 9 months of last year show a 20-percent increase in the commodities exchange. Statistics also reveal that machines, industrial and agricultural equipment, cars, tractors, spare parts, and construction material comprise 40 percent of Soviet exports to Egypt. Egyptian exports to the Soviet Union are represented by cotton, textile, furniture, Khan al-Khalili [Cairo bazaar] products, and agricultural produce such as oranges, perfumes, and medicinal herbs. The overall value of these exports has reached a total of $100 million annually. According to a report, the volume of Egyptian-Soviet trade has reached approximately 615 million pounds sterling compared to 249 million pounds sterling in 1981.

Following the resumption of relations at the ambassadorial level in mid-1984, the two countries also signed a protocol on trade cooperation. According to this protocol, Egyptian cotton, woven products, cotton goods, vegetables, fruits, salts, cosmetics, leather products, and wooden furniture at a value of 302 million pounds sterling were exported. Imports from the Soviet Union, with an estimated value of nearly 313 million pounds sterling, included approximately 1 million tons of coal, 200,000 tons of cement, 50,000 tons of fertlizers, 13,000 tons of newsprint, 38,000 tons of cardboard, and 30,000 tons of frozen fish, as well as glass, cast iron, and chemicals.

Within the framework of an existing economic protocol between the two countries, an agreement was signed last December that stipulates that 250,000 tons of coke will be imported for the Al-Nasr coke manufacturing company in Hulwan. The first shipments began to arrive in January. This deal is valued at $25 million. Egypt and the Soviet Union had earlier signed two agreements in this regard in May 1984. The first agreement pertained to the Soviet export of 250,000 tons of coal to Egypt for use in the coke company. The second agreement called for Soviet export of spare parts to be used by production units in the Al-Nasr coke manufacturing and chemicals company. This deal was valued at 1 million pounds.

Two additional agreements were signed in September 1985. According to the first agreement, valued at 11 million pounds sterling accounting units, heavy equipment and spare parts for the iron and steel company in Hulwan are to be imported in addition to train cars for transporting (?raw materials) and products. The second agreement, which was signed last December, has a value of 400 million pounds. It deals with the import of agricultural equipment and machines, 200,000 tons of cement, 1 million meters of glass sheet, and appliances such as refrigerators, washing machines, and sewing machines.

Omani Minister Ends Visit, Leaves Cairo

NC241137 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1114 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — Yusuf al-'Alawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, left Cairo for Tunisia this afternoon, following a brief visit to Cairo, during which he was received by President Husni Mubarak. Isma'il Makhluf, Foreign Ministry under secretary, saw the minister off at the airport.

Israelis Refuse Offer for Protection

PM250936 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 23 Mar 86 p 5

[Muhammad al-Hayawan article: "A Word of Love"]

[Text] We do not accept terrorism on our territory or anywhere else. We all condemn and reject terrorism because we want our country to be clean and free from bloodshed and crime. If a visitor is an unwanted guest, it is our duty to protect him when he visits our country, even if we reject his presence. Arab ethics dictate that you should protect everyone on your land and give them security until they leave because you are responsible for them as long as they are on your land and in your neighborhood.

In the absence of evidence, we cannot level accusations. We cannot accuse the Egyptian security authorities of failure or negligence. No capital in the world can accuse us of that because it so happens that similar incidents have occurred in all capitals of the world with the culprits still unknown and the investigations not advancing beyond the point of speculation. There have been similar incidents in all capitals of Europe, the Middle East, and America. The victims of these incidents carried all kinds of nationalities. The security authorities in all these countries have been unable to find the perpetrators except in the cases where they were discovered by accident as, for example, in the case of the attempt on the life of the pope when the culprit was spotted in a photograph taken of the pope.

A few days ago the Swedish prime minister was felled as he came out of a theater. All kinds of sophisticated devices were used to trace the killer but to no avail. Victims have fallen in Rome, Germany, France, Britain, the United States, Spain, and Portugal, but the culprits in most cases are still unknown. Some of the victims were Arabs, others were Jews, and others were of different nationalities, but the culprits are still unknown. The Egyptian Government has not failed to protect the Israelis in Egypt. The ordinary citizen does not care whether they stay or go, and sometimes he deliberately forgets their presence, but the Israelis reject protection because they consider it a kind of control. They want to be free from control. They want to do things other than their orignal tasks and they do not want anyone to discover or know anything about their movements. They want to move freely and thus they expose themselves to danger.

While condemning and rejecting terrorism we must admit that the main problem is that the Israelis refuse protection that we offer them all the time because we realize how delicate the situation is. We also realize that an Israeli in Egypt is a foreigner in Egypt and, like any other foreigner, deserves protection in general and deserves that we should look for the culprits, because he is a human being and a foreigner not because he is an Israeli.

Weekly Raps State Security Investigation Service

PM201245 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 15 Mar 86 pp 1,8

[Ibrahim Sa'dah article: "The State Security Service: Where Now?"]

[Excerpts] After the difficult days we have been through — which will not be forgotten easily — former Interior Minister Major General Ahmad Rushdi resigned and was succeeded as interior minister by former Asyut Governor Major General Zaki Badr. His first task was to deal with the consequences of the incidents and ensure that they are not repeated. Between the words of thanks I address to the resigning minister an the words of congratulation to the new minister, certain words, facts, and proposals should be put before public opinion. They could be in the public interest and could relieve us and restore our sense of security and reassurance.

With the permission of new Interior Minister Maj Gen Zaki Badr, I suggest that he begin by asking the State Security Investigation Service [SSIS], which is attached to the Ministry of Interior, to show him his own personal file, which grew fat in the recent years he spent as governor of Asyut, before he was appointed interior minister. I do not profess to know what is in the personal file of the former governor of Asyut but, from what I have heard from several current and former governors and from senior and junior officials, it is certain that not one of them has been spared accusations, attacks, the casting of doubts, and the questioning of their decisions. Maj Gen Zaki Badr was one of them. Therefore, it would not be strange or surprising if his file contained a share of the same defamations as others were subjected to. After all, nobody knew that Zaki Badr would become interior minister, although he was one of the candidates tipped to succeed Hasan Abu Basha.

Assuming that Maj Gen Zaki Badr accepted by proposal and asked to see his SSIS file, the chances are that he would not been shown that file and might even be told that there is no such file at all, especially now that the is interior minister. Anyway, Zaki Badr's file is not the object of this article. The new interior minister knows exactly what he has done throughout his service, his personal and administrative conduct, and the decisions he made before and after he became Asyut governor. So, what he does not see in a file that no longer exists in the SSIS archives is not important. The purpose, or the suggestion I mean to put to the new interior minister, is that he should devote some of his time to a reassessment of many of the things that come under his wing and are closely linked to his new responsibilities. What happened before the recent incidents hit us deserves serious pause and should receive extremely serious attention from Interior Minister Maj Gen Zaki Badr. That is a main part of the massive task awaiting the new interior minister.

It was a real tragedy that the incidents took Egypt, the state, by surprise. Egypt, thank God, has many security organs that watch everything and anticipate events that might constitute a threat to the country's security and safety. These security organs, however, were not aware of what was happening, particularly inside the Central Security Forces camps. Perhaps one of these organs — the SSIS in particular — knew what was going on and what might happen but did not bother to draw attention to it, or only told the circles it wanted to tell and ignored the other circles and institutions that could have moved quickly to correct the mistakes before the explosion, which might have assumed God only knows what proportions, exacerbating the situaiton and posing a threat.

If what I have heard is true, then the signs of the Central Security conscripts' mutiny were not unknown to the SSIS. What is more serious — if the stories and confirmations I have heard are true — is that the preliminary information that was available before the mutiny did not reach the people who should have been told. The simplest example of this is that the governor of Al-Jizah and the governorate security chief only found out after the Central Security Forces came out onto the streets to spread terror and fear and after they began to destroy and burn.

The motto once was that a governor, any governor, in his own governorate represents the president of the Republic and all his powers, in the sense that the governor is the highest authority to which all administrative and security organs turn. That, indeed, was the case for most of the state's organs and offices in the governorate, except the SSIS office, which maintained its independence and pursued independent activity under its central command in the capital. The justification, some claim, is that the duty of that particular organ is to watch what goes on in the governorate and, this being the case, it would be unreasonable for it to report its activity, achievements, and information daily to the governor because that would negate the purpose of its existence, because it would mean that it could not watch the performance of the governorate departments in general and the governor himself in particular.

Nobody objects to that justification, because it would be useful for any surveillance body to be free from control and domination by those whose performance, mistakes, and decisions are to be watched and whose excesses are to be exposed. The only objection arises when the state security service abandons its main task of providing security and confronting the adventurers who undermine the country's stability and makes its main concern competition with the other traditional security bodies — criminal investigation, administrative control, and accounting — in trapping employees, from the governor, through senior officials, down to the most junior.

The name of the SSIS reflects its duties. That service is not supposed to recruit agents who themselves take bribes, are suspect, and are opportunists, to supply it with incomplete information, tendentious rumors, and fabrications based on forged evidence. A political security control body should not rely on information supplied by corrupt and deviant people against their superiors at work or treat such malicious information as fact and evidence to incriminate innocent and honorable people.

As a citizen, I have a right to ask the new interior minister to correct all the wrong practices attributed to the SSIS. I know that the minister himself is not unaware of these practices, because he noted them personally when he was governor of one of the Upper Egypt governorates. These wrong practices have led those who committed them to abandon the main, nay, the sole task for which the service was created. The main job has been ignored in the interest of peripheral issues that others are supposed to handle.

It is in no way a state security matter when the SSIS recruits deviants and suspect people who take bribes in every ministry and government department and in every company in the public and private sectors to supply it with information on the behavior of the other employees in all these places. It is no state security matter when the SSIS protects these suspect agents and keeps them from harm.

How can the SSIS trust information supplied by deviants? How could a control body level accusations against honorable leaderships on the basis of fabricated evidence, and how could it question the honor and integrity of a high ranking, or even junior, official for no reason other than the fact that one of his subordinates, fearing administrative or legal punishment for his deviations, submits false accusations and suspect information to the SSIS to protect himself from punishment, terrorize his boss, and prevent his own accountability and dismissal.

Believe me, new interior minister, what I am saying here is what every honest official in every ministry and government department and institution feels and suffers. SSIS agents are spread throughout these and other places, and they have become a fearful weapon for intimidating and blackmailing their colleagues and superiors under SSIS protection. That service has changed from being a service for the protection of the country's and the people's security into a service for terrorizing and intimidating honest people, paralyzing their capabilities, and belittling their responsibilities. What is more, the deviant agents of that service are no longer ashamed of or embarrassed by their mercenary work. On the contrary, they now openly boast that they are agents of and closely linked to the most important security organ in Egypt.

They seize every opportunity to terrorize their colleagues and superiors, relying on SSIS backing and bragging that nobody dare stop them, question their shortcomings, or even contemplate reporting them to the tripartite committee so that it could dismiss them for their many crimes, deviations, and thefts. Very often, Mr New Minister, these petty agents carry out their threats. Their immediate chiefs cannot deter them, their chiefs' chief cannot scare them, and the ministers at the ministries where these contemptible agents work would not find anyone to support them if they decided to sign dismissal orders.

Mr New Interior Minister, the time has come for you to return the state security body to the path charted for it by the state when the idea of creating that body was first envisaged and to the defined tasks from which it should not deviate. Nobody wants corruption to be overlooked. Nobody accepts deviation by senior or junior employees. Nobody accepts exploitation of influence of illicit wealth. Nobody wants incompetent ministers, unsuccessful governors, ignorant directors, or depraved officials to remain in their posts, but at the same time nobody approves of such an important security body as the SSIS spending its time following and watching individuals and seeking to know what they say in their offices and homes, where they go, where they spend their evenings, and whom they see and visit.

What happened in the Central Security Forces camps was wrong, unjustifiable, and inexplicable. As soon as Ahmad Rushdi heard about it he drove his own car to the central area of the incidents and he stood there, together with Al-Jizah Governor Dr 'Abd al-Hamid Hasan and governorate Secretary Tahir al-Asmar, facing the mutineering conscripts, arguing with them, and answering their questions and complaints without losing his patience or even being aware that he was unarmed and that his life and the lives of his companions were in danger and at the mercy of any possible foolish and irresponsible act by any of the conscripts taking part in the killing, burning, and destruction.

What some Central Security Forces did and the resulting mistakes and negative aspects could have been dealt with and averted. All that, however, should not make us forget what former Interior Minister Maj Gen Ahmad Rushdi did and accomplished in his brief period as interior minister. He achieved many of his objectives, but time and circumstances did not give him a chance to achieve all he wanted to achieve as a man of security, morality, and principle and a man whose honesty and integrity are acknowledged by all.

Thanks to the outgoing interior minister and best wishes to the new interior minister: May he accomplish all that is expected of him and achieve what his predecessor could not.

Muslim Brotherhood Leader Pleads for Recognition

PM241607 Cairo AL-SH'AB in Arabic 18 Mar 86 p 3

[Muslim Brotherhood Supreme Guide 'Umar al-Talmasani article: "Open Letter to the President of the Republic from the Muslim Brotherhood"]

[Excerpts] In the name of God and of all the noble values of which honorable people are proud, I appeal to you to take my truthful words seriously and to believe that I am implementing the command of God's messenger, peace be upon him, in his saying that "religion is advice." When asked: "To whom, O God's prophet?" He said: "To the leaders, to the public in general, and to individuals." I do not claim that I alone am right; this is an effort to give advice, for, if I am right, I will have a double reward and, if not, a single reward.

When the recent incidents broke out, the Muslim Brotherhood, as is customary of them in such circumstances, denounced destruction, sabotage, and terror. They sent you a telegram to this effect and confirmed their views in a statement made to *AKHBAR AL-YAWM*. All the time they have been living in the hope that what they hear from you about equal rights and obligations among all the citizens would come true. But, when we look at the reality that the Muslim Brotherhood is experiencing, we find that it is denied the most fundamental rights that members of the public are enjoying.

The law on parties has been laid down as if specifically designed to prevent the Muslim Brotherhood from forming a party when everybody else has been allowed to form one. Every fair-minded person would attest to that. Does your excellency see this as equality among all members of the public? Are we not members of the public who work openly and condemn clandestine operation and acts of violence?

As every God-fearing person would confirm, the press law has been laid down so that it too will deprive the Muslim Brotherhood from publishing a paper expressing their views. Even when they followed the official procedure and took all the steps required by the press law, the press establishments placed hurdles in their path. It has been over 1 year that we have been trying, through various legal means, to exercise our right in this respect, yet we have been coming up against procrastination and deliberate delays preventing the issuing of a permit allowing us to publish a magazine. Does your excellency see this as equality of rights and obligations between the Muslim Brotherhood and the rest of the public? We are not here indulging in incitment but giving vent to our feelings toward such actions. All the Egyptians are allowed to publish nonperiodical books without hindrance, but when we tried to do the same we were surprised by the security men seizing the printed copies. Our lawyers exhausted themselves rushing from one office to another only to hear promises that a decision would be made tomorrow. The tomorrows come without anything happening.

All the bodies and parties hold religious and nonreligious celebrations. Only the Muslim Brotherhood alone are denied this right. Do you believe, Your Excellency, that this is equality between the Muslim Brotherhood and the rest of the public. If they ask for permission from the district officer or the governor the only response they hear from the security men is rejection. Does your excellency see this as equality between the Muslim Brotherhood and the rest of the people?

We are being treated differently from the rest of the Egyptian people. Does the government have evidence that we should be denied our political, economic, and social activities? Or is there a plan to deprive the Muslim Brotherhood of the rights that even the lowliest individual in the country enjoys. In view of these attitudes we believe with certainty that there is a persistent desire for the Muslim Brotherhood to vanish from existence.

The events Egypt is experiencing are grave, very grave indeed. Only total unity of all the citizens and complete trust between the people and government can halt all these dangers. Otherwise, the present state of tension and fear will remain as it is. If God's Shari‘ah had been applied the recent incidents and previous ones would not have taken place. Nothing good can be expected from indulging in destroying the young people's spirit through what the media is offering or the paucity of the religious programs in the media and the poor quality of the few programs that are offered.

Mr president, we are Muslim Egyptians whose primary concern is that our people should live in security, stability, and calmly and contendedly under the aegis of God's laws. Any constitution or law that is laid down is the work of man; in no way it will be perfect. But "God's Book" — God having created his creatures and knowing what is good and what is bad for them down through the ages and times — is the complete book that knows no deficiencies or falsehoods. I would not say let us try implementing God's Shari‘ah, because I place the Islamic Shari‘ah above being put to the test, since its benefits are definite and everyone whose relations with the greater of the universe are good believes in it.

For this reason it is in this nation's interest to apply God's Shari‘ah. I would not be exaggerating to say that the implementation of God's Shari‘ah in Egypt will augur well for the whole area and will even affect other Islamic countries, such as Indonesia, Malaysia, and others.

Mr president, the Muslim Brotherhood is a trend of which people in every part of the world are well aware because they believe in a creed and not in an ideology. What they are demanding is not their own fabrication. It is ordered by God the almighty, by the sunnah of His prophet, may God's peace and prayers be upon him, and, later, by the prophet's companions, may God be pleased with them all. The Muslim Brotherhood is the most active among the people in whatever it does. However, people may try to block this current, which is surging in every direction, they will achieve no results because God the almighty has pledged to protect it and God's pledge is no doubt valid.

Mr president, a people whose thoughts are preoccupied with ideas and views that are distant from their religion and creed cannot achieve any good. We hope, your excellency, that since you uphold democracy its benefits will reach all members of this people. We pray God that he may give you success and guide us all to the right path. Mr President, this is advice emanating from the heart of a believer who expects no reward or gratitude from anybody and is not afraid of oppression by anybody. God speaks the truth and guides one to the right path.

AL-'ARAB Interviews Ramadan on Iranian Aggression

JN251006 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpts] London, 24 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi first deputy prime minister, has explained that the recent Iranian aggression against Iraq will not be the last and that certain parties, chief among which is the Zionist entity, participated in the planning of this aggression because the military cadres in Iran are not sufficiently qualified to prepare for this aggression in the manner in which it was carried out. In an interview with the London-based *AL-'ARAB* paper, Taha Yasin Ramadan said that the Iraqi position is reassuring because it has 6 years of war experience behind it. He added that Iraq is against any withdrawals, concessions, or compromise settlements and that it is determined to reject all these things.

On the situation on the Al-Faw axis, the Iraqi first deputy prime minister said that the Iraqi forces succeeded in encircling the Iranian forces which entered Al-Faw and that any new Iranian advance has become impossible.

Taha Yasin Ramadan pointed out that the Iraqi plan on Al-Faw now consists of inflicting the heaviest possible losses on the Iranians and to make it impossible for them to reinforce their stand or even to react. What is required now is to turn this area into slaughterhouse for them.

On whether Iraq can go on with the war for another 6 years, the Iraqi first deputy prime minister said that Iraq will not give up an inch of its soil or any of its rights, no matter how minor, and that Iraq acts on this basis along the following two trends. The first is that Iraq considers the war as continuing. Therefore, it prepares its political, military, and economic programs in light of the fact that the war exists and will continue. The second trend is that Iraq tries to exploit all peace initiatives because it is working to attain peace and has no designs against the territories of others and its stand in this regard is not ambiguous. He said that the international community is well aware of this Iraqi stand.

On Iraq's stand toward the Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement, Taha Yasin Ramadan explained that this matter concerns the two parties alone. In spite of the fact that Jordan and Iraq have good relations, Iraq views this matter as concerning Jordan alone and this rapprochement is not a step on the road to a Syrian- Iraqi meeting.

Taha Yasin Ramadan said that the international community, particularly the two superpowers, have not fully assumed their duties. The two superpowers call for a halt to the war, carry out some activities, but have not done all that they could do.

Director on Possible Crossing of Shatt al-'Arab

JN241907 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Hasan al-Kashif dispatch from Basra, southern Iraq]

[Excerpt] Iraq today hinted that its forces may cross the Shatt al-'Arab waterway toward the Iranian territory opposite the Al-Faw triangle. This allusion was made today by more than one source.

'Abd al-Jabbar Muhsin, political guidance director, told me today that the complete encirclement of the Iranians in the Al-Faw triangle is possible. This is a clear indication that it is possible to cross the Shatt al-'Arab waterway. He added: Our forces previously crossed the Karun River and managed to maintain several divisions across the river for 2 years. The director of political guidance, who talked to us in one of the headquarters of the VII Army Corps, stressed that boats are the only means of supply for the Iranians because all their bridges across the Shatt al-'Arab waterway have been destroyed.

Iraqi planes today dropped tens of thousands of leaflets over Iranian troops in the Al-Faw triangle, urging them to save themselves from an overall siege.

In a press statement published today, Staff Lieutenant General Sa'di Tu'mah al-Juburi said one can imagine the size of the catastrophe which will befall the Iranians if the Shatt al-'Arab waterway is blocked and the encirclement is completed. He stressed that many of the Iranian calculations were shattered and numerous surprises are in store.

Source Warns Iran Against Attacking Civilians

JN250725 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0655 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Mar (INA) — A responsible source in the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command has stated that Iraq will not permit the Iranian aggressors to strike at Iraqi residential areas and harm the security of its citizens. In a statement to the *AL-QADISIYAH* paper today, the source said that the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command hopes that the Iranian regime will realize the perils of this trend and the grave consequences that may be entailed in case of a recurrence of the cowardly act that the Iranian planes carried out when they raided residential areas in the Maysan Governorate last Saturday.

The Iranian enemy planes raided residential areas in Maysan Governorate last Saturday, martyring one 11-year old boy and wounding six civilians.

Paper Reports 'All Means' To Be Used Against Iranians

JN231114 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1014 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Mar (INA) — The newspaper *AL-THAWRAH* has affirmed that the Iraqis are determined to use all means and armament capabilities to wipe out the invading Iranian forces that have crossed the Shatt al-'Arab.

In an editorial today, the paper says that self-defense is a legitimate right recognized and stipulated by all earthly and divine laws, as well as by all prevailing international laws and norms. It adds: We are defending our homeland, independence, and the future of our generations against the invaders who crossed our waterway and desecrated our national soil. Although a clear international resolution was issued a few days ago calling for a halt to the fighting and a negotiated, peaceful, just, and comprehensive solution to the dispute, the Iranian regime insisted on further exposing its expansionist ambitions in Iraq's territory.

The paper points out that the entire world knows Iraq's firm, principled stand toward ending the war and its readiness to cooperate with any international resolution or effort aimed to end the fighting. The entire world also knows that the Khomeyni regime is the insurmountable obstacle before the peace efforts and that it is the side that insists on continuing the war.

The paper concludes: The favoritism and appeasement that some are practicing with the Iranian regime will only increase this regime's arrogance, recklessness, and insistence on its stupid course of aggression, expansion, and terrorism, which threatens international peace and security.

Joint Minutes Signed With Turkey; Ozal Departs

JN241150 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1055 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Mar (INA) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and his accompanying delegation left for home today at the end of a 3-day official visit to Iraq. The Turkish prime minister was seen off by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; and the ministers.

Iraq and Turkey today signed the sixth minutes of the Iraqi-Turkish joint Committee for Economic, Trade, and Technical Cooperation. Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi signed the minutes for Iraq while Turkish Finance and Customs Minister Kurtcebe Alptemocin signed for Turkey. The signing ceremony was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Turgut Ozal, Turkish prime minister; Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Dr Samal Majid Farid, minister of planning; and the members of the two countries' delegations to the Iraqi-Turkish joint Committee for Economic, Trade, and Technical Cooperation.

In a speech he delivered at the signing ceremony Taha Yasin Ramadan praised the advanced relations which exist between the two neighbor countries, and stressed that the signing of the minutes is a step forward on the road to promoting cooperation between the two countries which is the best formula for advanced bilateral relations in the region. Taha Yasin Ramadan emphasized that the Iraqi political leadership allots great importance to the distinctive relationship between Iraq and Turkey and takes great care to preserve it.

Replying, Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal stressed his country's desire to implement the provisions of the joint minutes, particularly in the sphere of oil, the implementation of the second Iraqi oil pipeline through Turkey, the implementation soon of a railroad between the two countries, the construction of motorways between the two countries, and the operation of daily regular flights between the two countries.

Ozal said he hopes that peace will be established in the region, stressing that his country will exert all its efforts in this respect.

The joint minutes cover three fields of cooperation between Iraq and Iran. The first deals with foreign trade, money exchange, and transportation. The second deals with cooperation in the sphere of energy and electrical power, and the third deals with the expansion of the scopes of economic and technical cooperation. The joint minutes also cover cooperation in the sphere of overland and air transport, the establishment of a direct railroad to Turkey, and providing electricity to some Turkish areas.

Communiques Issued on Combat Operations

Communique No 2,160

JN231807 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,160 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 23 March 1986]

[Excerpt] The following is a roundup of operations for yesterday evening and today:

1. On the VII Army Corps front, our columns continue to inflict massive losses on the aggressors with their extensive firepower which rained deadly missiles upon them. Our forces closed all outlets to them so they will have to receive God's punishment.

2. Blinded by their grudges, the Iranian rulers are falling into the abyss of death. They are now drowned in their misery, looking for a straw to which they can cling. Therefore, they try to appear capable from time to time in the hope that they will deceive themselves if they cannot deceive anyone else. The results are always frustrating to them, leading them from bad to worse. Iraq's noose around them will continue to tighten, their losses will increase, and their coffers will become empty, making it impossible for them to feed their people. Seeking an opportunity for escape and hoping to feed their lying media machine, they mounted a series of attacks against peaks which had been liberated by our Armed Forces. The attacks occurred as follows:

a. At 0300 today [2130 GMT on 22 March] they attempted to attack Peaks 1,790 and 1,774.
b. They again returned to attack Peak 1,790.
c. They again tried to attack peak 1,774.
d. At dawn today, they attempted to attack Peak 1,412.

In all their attempts, they found the Iraqi men of the brave Republican guard waiting for them under the leadership of the Al-Siddiq Forces. These are men who believe in God and their principles, filled with the love of the people and of their great leader. They are concerned about the dignity of the homeland, eager to go to the fields of combat when the fighting rages. Their swords tireless and they are at the forefront of the procession of freedom. They always respond to the homeland's call in the south and in the north, saying: Here we are. Then they go to wipe out the apostate enemies.

Our men fought and the land fought with them. They perfected their night combat, turning our enemies into dead bodies on the road and into hordes fleeing from hell to hell. Only very few of them remained alive in order to tell Khomeyni about our victory.

Our brave forces completely dominated the scene. The land was preserved for its people and the frustrated were defeated. Only the Kurdish citizen remained to guard his land and crops, surrounded by the Republican guard, protecting the land, the crops, and the people.

These great men, the heroes of this epic are: Special Forces Staff Brigadier General Kamil Sajid, leader of the Al-Siddiq Forces; Staff Brigadier General Nasir Sa'id Tawfiq, commander of the Presidential Guard Brigade; Major Nabil Jadallah Mustafa, commander of a Presidential Guard unit; Major Mustafa Ahmad 'Abdallah, commander of a Presidential Guard unit; and Captain 'Isam Ahmad Ismma'il, commander of a Presidential Guard Unit.

Praise be to God. He has guided us along the right path and granted us victory. Long live the people, long live the leader, long live the Army.

3. Our Air Force has continued its attacks on the enemies, inflicting massive losses on their men and equipment in 328 combat missions. At 1400 [1100 GMT] today, it directed a successful strike against Khark Island after which our planes returned safely to base.

4. The heroes of our helicopter gunships flew 39 combat missions, inflicting massive losses on enemy soldiers and equipment and returning safely to base.

5. The criminal enemy shelled the suburbs of Madali, Khanaqin, Darband-e Khan, and Khurmal with long-range artillery.

[Signed]The Armed Forces General Command, 23 March 1986

Communique No 2,161

JN241732 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,161 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The progress made by our country in all areas under our wise and brave leadership, thanks to the persevering efforts of our great people, is today embodied by our gigantic military power which is capable of protecting Iraq against the aggressors' evils and of destroying all attempts aimed at harming our country's security and sovereignty or obstructing our people's progress.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. On the VII Army Corps front: Units from the valiant northern column carried out several raids last night and today on Khomeyniite positions. Our brave fighters managed to destroy several enemy positions, weaponry, and equipment and inflict losses in personnel. They then returned safely to their positions.

Our valiant forces in the Al-Rashid and northern columns continued to deliver concentrated strikes against enemy troops. Strongly and continuously supported by our Air Force, Army helicopter gunships, artillery, and naval units, our forces inflicted massive losses on all combat axes.

2. Our heroic Air Force continued its daily annihilative raids on the Khomeyniite aggressors' positions and supply lines, inflicting heavy losses in 227 combat missions. Our eagles returned safely to base, praised be God.

3. The tough cavaliers of the helicopter gunships continued to dominate the battle skies, inflicting large losses on enemy personnel, weaponry, and equipment in 28 combat sorties. They then returned safely to base, praised be God.

4. One of our units in the I Army Corps northern sector spotted a group of enemy vehicles. It pounded them with concentrated artillery fire, destroying and burning 14 large vehicles loaded with personnel and ammunition.

5. The forces of the despotic, criminal clique shelled the suburbs of Khanaqin, Mandali, and Khurmal, as well as the Kanaru residential complex, with long-range artillery, wounding three civilians and damaging two civilian cars.

[Signed]The Armed Forces General Command, 24 March 1986

Prince Hasan Addresses Islamic Bank Meeting

JN221410 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Deputizing for His Majesty King Husayn, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan opened the 10th meeting of the Council of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank at the Palace of Culture at Al-Husayn Youth City this morning.

His Highness Prince Hasan delivered a speech in which he said: Your meeting today is held on this land which was throughout history a starting place for Islamic conquests and which carries the memory of the Muitah, Al-Yarmuk, and Hittin battles. He said that Zionism continues to challenge the Islamic nation by carrying out a series of attacks on holy Jerusalem and by attempting to obliterate its Islamic holy places. Jordan, he said, always warned against these attacks and schemes and frequently called on the international community to halt these measures.

His highness the crown prince asserted that the oppressive measures and the building of settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as well as measures depriving their citizens of their natural resources, are aimed at forcing people to emigrate and at ridding the land of its legitimate owners. He said that owing to its historic link with the Palestine question, Jordan is dutybound to warn of the seriousness of the current situation and of its crucial dimensions.

Jordan is also dutybound to explain that these Israeli measures constitute continuous and intermingled steps to implement and intergrate Israeli schemes to cancel the Arab and Islamic presence which is deeply-rooted in the occupied territory.

His highness the crown prince said that the Palestinian people's cohesion and steadfastness vis-a-vis these measures are backed by the continued Jordanian, Arab, and Islamic support through various material and non-material forms. He added: Your meeting today has meanings and dimensions which exceed Islamic solidarity in development efforts and include bolstering the ability of our Islamic nation to confront the serious challenges posed to its culture, security, existence, and values. We need to unify our stand, pool our efforts, and extend planned assistance to the kinfolk in the occupied land to strengthen them, keep them steadfast on their land, and support their economic potentials and social institutions.

His highness praised the sincere efforts which resulted in establishing the Islamic Development Bank and those behind its accomplishments in the last 10 years. He voiced Jordan's thanks for the bank's continued support for Jordanian development efforts. He also voiced profound appreciation for the bank's policies which enabled it to attain an outstanding position among international and regional institutions and to support economic and social construction in the member states by methods which do not apply usury.

Dr Ahmad Muhammad 'Ali, head of the Islamic Development Bank, delivered a speech voicing thanks and appreciation to His Majesty King Husayn for sponsoring the conference.

Prime Minister Al-Rifa'i Receives USSR Ambassador

JN250730 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 25 Mar 86 p 26

[Text] Amman PETRA — Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received USSR Ambassador in Amman Aleksandr Ivanovich Zinchuk in his office yesterday.

Joint Trade Committee Minutes Signed With Syria

JN241359 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Amman — The minutes of the meeting of the permanent joint Jordanian-Syrian committee stemming from the economic cooperation agreement organizing trade between Jordan and Syria were signed at the Ministry of Industry and Trade at noon today.

The Ministry of Industry and Trade under secretary has said that the minutes continued scientific bases for the exchange of trade between the two fraternal countries and for working to remove obstacles impeding bilateral trade exchange. He pointed out that the minutes defined the volume of trade which both sides aim to achieve this year. He said that trade exchange this year will be set at 20 million Jordanian dinars for each side. They also agreed to list goods that can be exchanged and accordingly to issue instructions to private and public enterprises in both countries. These lists would not prevent importation of other national goods should either country require them or should there be buyers for them.

Exportation To Be Encouraged To Reduce Deficit

JN221200 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 22 Mar 86 pp 1, 18

[Text] Amman — *SAWT AL-SHA'B* — The Council of Ministers has decided to take a number of important measures to encourage exportation in accordance with the clear economic policy followed by the government to reduce the trade deficit. A number of bases were endorsed to adopt the principle of reciprocal deals, to protect local industries and open local markets for them, encourage exportation, exempt a percent of exporting companies' profits from income tax, exempt raw materials from customs fees or reduce these fees, and facilitiate measures for exportation and drawback.

The following are the details of the economic policy endorsed by the Council of Ministers:

1. Manage imports from countries importing from Jordan so that the trade balance will be in Jordan's favor. Such target countries are India, Indonesia, Romania, the PRC, and possibly some East Asian Countries in the near future.
2. Conclude equal deals and implement them either directly or through a contract with the other party.
3. Give countries which import Jordanian products priority in implementing projects through direct contracts in accordance with authorized prescriptions and competitive prices.
4. Guide the public and private sectors to import from these countries by following one of these methods:

a. Limit imports to those items which have good quality and competitive prices.

b. Adopt a quota system for countries which import from Jordan in order to increase imports from them.

5. Allow Jordanian exporters and industrialists to bring in raw materials under the status of temporary entry so goods may be locally manufactured and then exported. Experience has proven that specialized companies should run the exportation process and that manufacturers could not carry out this process as it requires special abilities and financing.

6. Expedite suggested amendments to the law on commerical centers. These amendments include the following:

a. Establish a fund for supporting exports.

b. Expand the objectives of the Commerical Centers Establishment so it becomes an establishment for developing exports and for giving the necessary guarantees in order to enable exporters to obtain the necessary financing for their business.

7. Issue clear instructions to the heads of Jordanian missions abroad, especially in countries importing Jordanin products and exerting efforts to maintain these markets and increase the quantities of their products, to continue to implement concluded deals, open new markets, and introduce Jordanian products. Also brief Jordanian missions on economic developments and decisions adopted by the government to support and invigorate the Jordanian economy.

The Measures

The practical measures to achieve most of these principles lie in establishing a special shareholder company called the Jordanian Company for Import and Export to which the Commercial Enters Establishment, the Phosphate Company, the Potash Company, the Jordanian Fertilizers Company, the Supply Ministry, the Civil Consumer Establishment, and the Military Consumer Establishment would contribute. This special shareholder company will be transformed into a general shareholder company after its success to give the private sector an opportunity to contribute.

The objectives of this company would be:

1. to implement equal deals which are concluded either directly or through a contract with others abroad;
2. make contracts with Jordanian producers to market their products abroad to increase the exportation of Jordanian products, and
3. advertise Jordanian goods abroad through possible means.

Visiting Saudi Finance Minister on Oil Prices, Aid

JN230930 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 23 Mar 86 p 1

[By Salamah B. Ni'mat]

[Text] Amman — Saudi Finance Minister Muhammad Aba al-Khayl said on Saturday that Saudi Arabia will not make "any more sacrifices" by cutting its oil output in order to prop up world oil prices.

Mr Aba al-Khayl said Saudi Arabia had "always sought (within OPEC) to restore stability to oil prices at its own expense." "We have learned our lessons. This will not happen again," he told the *JORDAN TIMES*.

The Saudi minister said the Kingdom "has an interest in maintaining stable oil prices at reasonable levels." However, he said that Saudi interests clashed with the interests of other OPEC countries.

He explained that Saudi Arabia, which is estimated to hold 25 per cent of the world's oil reserves, "will continue to remain an oil exporting country which has interest in stable oil prices. Other countries whose reserves are limited have different interests than ours."

"This stability in prices should not be at our expense. This will not be repeated," he added.

Mr Aba al-Khayl said current oil prices were "not satisfactory for countries like Saudi Arabia. They (the tumbling prices) are also troublesome for oil importers."

On the impact of oil prices decline on the Saudi economy, Mr Aba al-Khayl said that despite the negative impact, the Kingdom was capable over the last decade to utilise its oil revenues to build the country's infrastructure and development by establishing modern projects and financial institutions in the agricultural, industrial and construction fields. He said these establishments are capable of "standing on their own."

He said that Saudi Arabia's development was continuing within the resources available to the Kingdom. He said the capital that has been invested in the Kingdom over the last few years was capable of backing this development.

On Saudi financial assistance to Arab countries, the finance minister said that such aid "would not be affected more than the Kingdom is affected." He explained that Saudi aid to Arab states and development in these states "are vulnerable to the same influences."

"The available resources will proportionately continue on the Arab level whether reduced or increased," he said.

Mr Aba al-Khayl, who met on Saturday with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan and Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, left for Riyadh later in the evening.

Karami on Efforts To End Current Crisis

NC241725 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Remarks by Prime Minister Rashid Karami in response to questions by unidentified correspondents following a meeting of the West Beirut Coordination Committee on 24 March — recorded]

[Text] [Karami] As everyone knows, the current phase through which we are passing is characterized by deadlock. This state of affairs is just as serious as any other situation or development that might happen to us. Social and economic factors are creating a heavy burden for all citizens. This causes one to ask: How can we conceivably reach a solution that will break this deadlock and bring our country out of its present painful situation?

Some people believe that salvation might come from outside Lebanon. However, it is our belief that the way out is contingent upon our own will and on what we can do ourselves to achieve national reconciliation through a plan of reform, be it the tripartite agreement or any other solution agreed upon by the Lebanese people with the support and help of fraternal Syria. It is on the basis of this premise that we have supported the tripartite agreement and have advocated that it be approved.

Until the desired solution is reached, we in the Coordination Committee will concern ourselves with ensuring the security of West Beirut. Therefore, we must continue our efforts to establish this security, thereby allowing citizens to enjoy stability and peace. This was the topic of our discussion today. We are seeking to implement previously agreed decisions. I am very hopeful that the measures that we have begun to implement will be continued until the security and stability which we desire have been achieved.

[Question] It has been observed that Israel's escalation of the situation in the south (?culminated) today in the violent shelling of Al-Nabatiyah. What are your comments on this?

[Karami] Such barbaric and Nazi practices can only be expected from the Israeli enemy. This enemy has not spared us from his harmful and avaricious acts for even 1 day. That is why we must resist and work for the enemy's unconditional and complete withdrawal as soon as possible.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, what do you have to say about Strauss' visit to the area?

[Karami] I have no knowledge of this visit. Therefore, I cannot appraise it.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, the deterioration in the security situation along the contact lines coincides with statements by former President Camille Sham'un. What is the objective behind these security flare-ups?

[Karami] We have, in fact, discussed this phenomenon. We all denounce these acts of aggression and violence, especially on the contact lines. Such activities sometimes transcend these lines and reach deep into residential areas. We cannot fathom any justification or reason for such actions.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, would it be correct to say that political endeavors have reached an impasse?

[Karami] We do not believe that the way for any good endeavor is blocked. We must continue our efforts and do everything necessary to put an end to the present situation, which has prompted our complaints.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, does a draft solution exist that might provide an alternative to the tripartite agreement?

[Karami] In my opinion, no serious draft solution has been proposed so far other than the tripartite agreement.

[Question] Thank you, Mr Prime Minister.

Al-Murabitun Reportedly Calls for Mobilization

NC241824 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] According to Sunnite sources close to the Al-Murabitun Movement, Sunnite youth in West Beirut have been requested to carry their weapons against the organizations controlling West Beirut. The same sources have noted a positive response to this Sunnite call for a general mobilization.

Iranian Foreign Ministry Delegation Arrives

NC241743 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] An Iranian delegation led by [Mohammad Hoseyn] Lavasani, director general of the Political Affairs Department at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, arrived in West Beirut today. The delegation members met with Shaykh Shams al-Din and Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah.

UK Ambassador Urges Release of Alec Collett

NC250809 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] John Gray, the British Ambassador to Lebanon, has called on the kidnappers of British journalist Alec Collett to release him, pointing out that a whole year has passed since his detention. In a press interview, Gray refused to comment on the details of the kidnapping, pointing out that a videotape that he had received in December showed Collet in apparently good health.

The British ambassador has also asserted his country's support for Lebanon, saying that Britain believes that any real and permanent solution to the Lebanese problem must come from the Lebanese themselves. He added: We are ready to assist in every way, either through the United Nations or through financial support for UNIFIL in south Lebanon.

Cuban Delegation To Visit South in April

NC241953 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Dr Hasan Yusuf, the official in charge of the Amal Movement's foreign relations, received the Cuban ambassador to Lebanon today. The ambassador gave Dr Yusuf a cable in reply to the one that Minister Nabih Birri had sent to the leadership of the Cuban Communist Party on the occasion of the third party conference of 4 February.

The Cuban ambassador briefed Dr Yusuf on the results of this conference, especially those that pertained to Lebanon, the Middle East, and the conferees' support for the heroic Lebanese national resistance and people until all Lebanese territory is liberated. The ambassador also informed Dr Yusuf that an official Cuban delegation will visit Lebanon in April. The delegation members plan to tour the southern area in order to acquaint themselves with conditions there, as well as with those in Lebanon in general.

Amal Captures Airport Lighting Saboteurs

NC221002 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Statement issued by the Fifth Section of the Amal Movement's Military Bureau on 22 March]

[Text] The airport security force of the Amal Movement today arrested members of a gang responsible for sabotaging the electric cables of the airport runway. Following the instructions of certain suspect security organs, the aim of this gang had been to render the runway inoperative.

Amal Official Involved

NC221514 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Investigations undertaken by responsible offices at Beirut International Airport a few days ago have revealed that it was Muhammad Hamiyyah, the official in charge of Amal's security apparatus, who had supervised the disconnection and theft of lighting cables from the airport runways with the intention of selling the copper components in them. According to sources, eyewitness reports were able to verify the means used to disconnect and transport these cables.

Further on Fighting in Beirut, Mountain Areas

Casualties Reported in Fighting

NC231812 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The combat lines in Al-Shiyah in the southern suburb are currently the scene of fierce fighting in which various types of weapons have been employed. Neighboring residential areas are coming under indiscriminate fire from 81- and 120-mm mortars. A number of citizens have been wounded. It should be noted that the security situation along these lines deteriorated at 1700 today.

Army To Return Fire

NC242109 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2048 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Rocket launchers and artillery pieces located in Harat Hurayk are currently directing salvos at the Al-Hazimiyah and B'abda areas. The areas of Al-Hadath, Al-Fayyadiyah, Al-Hazimiyah, Sinn al-Fil, Jisr al-Basha, Tall al-Za'tar, and Al-Judaydah have also come under concentrated shelling.

We have just been informed that, in accordance with a directive issued by the Army Command's Guidance Directorate, the Lebanese Army is now returning fire with the appropriate weapons.

Army Uses Tanks Against Artillery

NC242146 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2131 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Although the rocket and shellfire directed at the eastern areas stopped at 2300 tonight, fighting involving the use of rockets and artillery is now raging along the combat lines in the markets area, Al-Tayyunah, Dar al-Kitab, and Al-Barid. The Lebanese Army is using tanks to silence the sources of fire. We have just received a report that at this very moment 'Ayn al-Rummanah is coming under mortar fire.

More Clashes Reported

NC242114 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Despite the calm that has prevailed along the capital's lines, there has been a security setback on the science college-al-Laylakah combat lines and along the old Sidon road. Clashes involving the use of various types of weapons are now taking place and residential areas nearby are being subjected to mortar and anti-aircraft gun fire.

Fighting on Mountain Combat Lines

NC250922 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Fierce fighting, involving various large- and medium-caliber weapons, has been taking place on the Al-Ma'rufiyah-Bsaba combat line since 0915 today. Shells fell in 'Ayn al-Rummanah, and sniper fire hit 'Aytat, Dahr al-Wahsh, and Suq al-Gharb. A cease-fire was declared at 1015, after which the artillery shelling stopped. However, sporadic exchanges of machinegun fire continued. Meanwhile, guarded calm prevails on the combat lines in Beirut, the southern suburb, and upper Al-Matn.

Reportage on Reaction To Libyan-U.S. Clashes

Golan Tank Deployment Reported

NC241752 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] At a time when Israel is preparing to call up reservists following the declaration of the Golan Heights as a prohibited military zone, reports also indicate that Syria has deployed 2,000 tanks in the Golan area. Observers link the Syrian-Israeli tension to the maneuvers now being conducted by the U.S. fleet off the coast of Libya.

U.S. Actions Called 'Serious'

JN241434 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Gentlemen: U.S. war minister Weinberger and U.S. White House secretary Carter [as heard] are trying to justify the provocative actions of the U.S. war fleet in the Black Sea near Soviet territorial waters and in the Mediterranean Sea near Libyan territorial waters. They said that the United States wants to stress freedom of navigation in certain areas in the world. The other U.S. justifications also fall within the context of such weak and unbelievable pretexts and allegations.

How can the United States be concerned about freedom of navigation in international waters and air space when U.S. warplanes intercepted an Egyptian civilian plane and forced it to land in Italy in violation of the law? Why did the United States defend in international circles the Israeli air piracy against the Libyan passenger plane in international air space ner Cyprus?

How can the United States be concerned about the freedom of navigation ininternational waters when it defends Israeli warships' violation of the freedom of navigation in certain parts of the Mediterranean Sea?

Regarding the Middle East and the Mediterranean Sea, the United States spends more than $10 million everyday to arm Israel and to encourage it to launch aggressive wars, occupy and annex other countries' territories, violate international law, disobey the United Nations, and create a permanent state of tension and push the region to the brink of war. The United States also creates tension whenever it tries to dominate the region and faces natural resistance from Arab national liberation movments led by Syria and otehr Arab forces which adhere to the land and Arab rights.

U.S. actions in the Mediterranean Sea and Israeli threats to Syria constitute a flagrant act of terrorism and a serious provocation aimed at furthering the crisis and the explosiveness in the region. These actions do not serve peace or even pave the way for peace. Moreover, they will not enable the United States and Israel to impose capitulation on the Arabs. The Arabs will never relinquish their lands, their rights, and their freedom to make their own political decisions and establish relations with countries and sides which support them.

The United States will not succeed in dominating the region despite its continued efforts to spend money and mass troops. The masses, not the United States or Israel, will determine the geography and the history in this region. This is what the great Arab leader, Hafiz al-Asad, has said. What is said by leader Al-Asad is the only thing which works in this part of the world. The United States may hold dozens of provocative maneuvers or it may push the situation to the brink of conflict or to an actual conflict, but it will not achieve victory or its goals, because the will of the Arab struggle is there and nothing in the world can conquer the will of the people.

Libyan Claims, U.S. Denial Reported

JN250616 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli — Libyan television last night carried a communique announcing that the U.S. Air Force yesterday morning began violating Libyan air space over Libyan territorial waters in the Gulf of Sidra. The communique said that Libyan ground defenses confronted four U.S. planes, shooting down three of them; two at noon and one in the evening. The communique added that the three planes were seen falling into the sea.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes denied the shooting down of any U.S. planes and told journalists last night that the United States now considers Libyan forces as hostile forces. He said that his country reserves the right to take any additional measures required by the situation and that the U.S. forces are now in a state of readiness.

President Reagan held contacts with several U.S. politicians in this regard.

Al-Asad, Al-Qadhdhafi Talk

JN250913 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus, 25 Mar (SANA) — A telephone contact took place last night between President Hafiz al-Asad and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The conversation dealt with the U.S. aggression against Libya.

Second Conversation

JN251129 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad contacted Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya, by telephone at noon today. They reviewed the developments of the U.S. aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Newspapers on U.S. Threats Against Syria, Libya

JN250920 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Is the New U.S. Alliance for Terrorism or for Aggression?" *AL-BA'TH* says: The United States nowadays is active in the Middle East to erupt new situations which, according to the U.S. viewpoint, pose a grave threat to the U.S. policy which seeks to transform the entire region into an area that will definitively and unquestionably be subjected to Washington. Manifestations of this hostile policy are evident in the following two scenarios which sum up U.S. designs and expose the hostile objectives they seek to attain. The first scenario is the events in the Sidra Gulf, the U.S. mobilization of forces off the Libyan coast, and the daily statements by U.S. officials to provoke the Libyan revolution and fabricate a confrontation with it at any cost. This scenario which is taking form through the claim that routine maneuvers are taking place in the Mediterranean in which all U.S. corps are participating but which are taking place beyond Libya's territorial waters, is an exposed attempt to drag the Libyan command into a confrontation with unpredictable consequences not only on security in the region but also on the entire world's security.

The second scenario is the tense situation on the northeastern front between Syria and the Zionist enemy and the threats Israeli war generals and Israeli officials are levelling at Syria with the overt backing of the United States.

AL-BA'TH adds: This scenario is taking form in the U.S.-Zionist political club under the pretext that the Syrian military power is increasing and that the Syrian stand conflicts with the political initiatives for which Washington has been paving the way in the region to force the Arabs to give up their rights and unconditionally accept U.S.-Zionist hegemony.

Within the framework of this policy, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has come closer to the region so that he may be in the midst of events and to reassure himself about the extreme state of alertness of the U.S. bases which are located in the countries of some NATO parties around the Mediterranean.

AL-BA'TH concludes: This feverish U.S. activity will scare no one either here in Syria or in Libya regardless of the saber-rattling or the flexing of muscles at sea to which we have grown accustomed because we remain committed to our rights and to defending them. We always take into consideration the price we have to pay for defending our rights against any aggressor force, even if this force is the United States.

Under the headlines "The U.S. Maneuvers and the Dimensions of the Imperialist Onslaught" *AL-THAWRAH* says: In order to frighten the Arab masses, the United States mobilizes its forces, and puts its aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean on alert believing that the heavy stick policy will terrorize these masses. However, these calculations clash with the basic reality that the Arab masses and their steadfast forces are determined to confront any imperialist-Zionist aggression. They are supported in their struggle by the forces of peace and socialism in the world, particularly by the friendly USSR which has announced its support for Syria and Libya and has emphasized that those who seek to deal a military blow to Syria must know that the USSR has more than once stressed its support for Syria which is confronting U.S. and Zionist machinations and rejects blackmail and military pressure against it.

Soviet Warnings of U.S. Aggression Reported

JN250641 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow — NOVOSTI has affirmed that recent events in the Middle East indicate that the two strategic allies, the United States and Israel, intend to expand the policy of military adventures in this region. The agency warned Washington and Tel Aviv against any act of military aggression against Syria. At the same time, the agency renewed the USSR's absolute support for Syria in its heroic stands against the imperialist-Zionist onslaught.

Moscow also denounced yesterday's U.S. attack on the Libyan coast and ships, describing it as an act of provocation and aggression.

Al-Kasm: Arab Task To Confront Israel

JN241324 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Damascus — Under the patronage of Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the Arab conference on plant protection opened here today. The conference is being held by the Arab agricultural engineers federation in cooperation with the Arab society for the protection of plants from 24 to 27 March in the Al-Mutanabi Hall in hall in the Meridian Hotel in Damascus.

Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm delivered a speech at the opening of the conference in which he said: It is my pleasure on this occasion to express the special attention we give in this country to every effort and activity related to agriculture and all its aspects.

The prime minister added: Our ambitions, aspirations, and achievements will face international challenges in the absence of joint Arab action or effective Arab solidarity against the Zionist enemy and its allies. He said: Syria, which is convinced that the major danger is Israel, has always said that the united Arab efforts should always be geared toward confronting this danger. Israel and the United States view the Arab territory and resources as a target for expansion and an area that should be controlled by them. Every now and then they try to advance step by step toward this objective.

The prime minister said: We in Syria believe that the problems and crises in the Arab world are created by the United States and Israel. We also believe that when the political and military priority in united Arab strategy becomes the confrontation of Israel and its supporters, all problems and crises will be solved very quickly because the rifle will then be aimed at those who create these problems. The Arabs have no interest in opening political or military fronts other than the front with the Israeli enemy.

Dr al-Kasm added: The people of this country who assume great defensive burdens in addition to economic burdens, and who enjoy a deep political and economic awareness, are determined not to reconcile with capitulatory, defeatist, and divisionist dimensions in this area. This people are well prepared to deal with all aspects of and dangers created by Zionism and U.S. policies. Syria has proved many times the credibility of its views and the soundness of its stands. It is now ready more than ever before to confront the enemy which dreams of aggression. This front line of Arab force represented by Syria will remain the political and military barrier which cannot be bypassed by Israel and those who support its move to the depth of the Arab homeland. Every Arab effort regardless of its nature, efforts such as you are now exerting in your conference, will remain a road toward solidarity, cooperation, and unity of thought and action in the Arab homeland.

Reportage on Response to U.S. Action Toward Libya

Action Termed 'Self-Defense'

TA251117 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The prime minister has said that the United States is entitled to defend sea routes. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that a communique issued by the Prime Minister's Office states that in Mr Peres' opinion Libya is the spearhead of international terrorism and is a source of violence and a threat to its surroundings. Determination and firm action against threats and terrorist attacks are the basis for ensuring peace in the world.

Replying to a question, the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry, Avi'ezer Pazner, stated that Israel regards the U.S. reaction as an act of self-defense. Sources in the Foreign Ministry told our correspondent Gid'on Remez that Israel is encouraged by the firm position taken by the United States.

Moshe Levi Says Action 'Appropriate'

TA251302 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1254 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Here is the reaction by the chief of staff, Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, to the events in the Gulf of Sidra. The chief of staff has said: I must say that the U.S. reaction to Libya's threats is one that is appropriate for terrorism. Terrorism must be fought and not surrendered to. This was said by Chief of Staff Lt Gen Moshe Levi.

Officials React to Morocco's King Hassan's Proposal

TA241820 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Reacting to King Hassan of Morocco's proposal for a summit meeting between an Arab leader and Prime Minister Shim'on Peres to explore Israel-Arab peace prospects, senior officials here in Jerusalem say it has always been Israel's position to welcome direct talks with any Arab leader. The Moroccan monarch made his suggestion in an interview published today in the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-SIYASAH*.

U.S. Reportedly Urging Arms Sales to Iraq

TA211249 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Independent reports published in London say that the United States has been quietly urging Israel to sell arms to Iraq to help that country hold its own in the Gulf War with Iran. Details in this report from David Grant, in London:

[Begin Grant recording] Whilst the Reagan administration has remained neutral in the 6-year-old Gulf War, and publicly would perfer neither side to win, there are clear indications, according to reports in London, that it sees an Iranian victory as a greater threat to regional stability. Consequently, the United States is said to have been actively, though quietly, encouraging an arms deal between Iraq and Israel. Even though both countries publicly are bitter enemies, Washington has noted they have a common enemy: Syria. The reason suggested by London sources for America's interest in seeing a successful outcome to initial contacts between Iraq and Israel include the growing concern that President Saddam Husayn's government cannot resist Iran's military pressure on Iraq indefinitely. There's also the fear that with Iran having succeeded in getting a toe-hold in Iraq, they may attack Kuwait next. [Word indistinct] all added to that the recognition that Iraq appears to have dropped its overt support for Arab terrorists since Abu Nidal left Baghdad 3 years ago and, finally, intelligence reports that the Soviet Union is providing Ayatollah Khomeyni's government with arms and ammunition through North Korea and possibly Czechoslovakia. Israel, which the reports claim used to supply Iran with arms, is said to have stopped doing so at America's request. Iraq has expressed interest in Israel's drone, the [word indistinct] low-flying unmanned reconnaissance aircraft which, fitted with TV cameras, can beam pictures of battlefields to a ground station. There is also an added possibility that Iraq, which has Soviet-made equipment, may ask Israel for some of its Soviet arms captured in various wars. This is David Grant, in London. [end recording]

Israel's Foreign Ministry has no comment and the Defense Ministry says its policy is not to comment on arms sales and contacts with foreign governments.

Rabin on Citizenship for Golan Heights Druze

TA241231 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1221 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The defense minister has said that if the Golan Heights Druze reject the offer of Israeli citizenship, they will be treated like foreign citizens residing in the State of Israel. Minister Rabin said Israel is not forcing the Druze in the Golan Heights to accept Israeli citizenship. He called upon them not to be tempted by the statements being made across the border because the Golan Heights are an inseparable part of the State of Israel and will remain so. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that the defense minister was speaking at a ceremony in the village of Daliyat el-Karmel.

Shamir, UN Under Secretary General Discuss Issues

TA240755 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 24 Mar 86 p 3

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Text] UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding, who has replaced Brian Urquhart, met yesterday with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and informed him that he met with various elements in connection with the Jewish hostages in Beirut.

Shamir expressed his satisfaction and said that Israel considers it important that an international body is taking an interest in the release of these Jews. Shamir protested to Goulding over the talks which politicians and UN members held with PLO leader

Yasir 'Arafat, thereby increasing his prestige and strengthening his position. On the subject of UNIFIL, Goulding repeated the proposal to change the forces's deployment. Shamir expressed his opposition to this, saying that for security reasons Israel is interested in maintaining the security strip as the best buffer zone for ensuring relative quiet among the northern border.

Shamir, Levi Meet in Bid To Overcome Differences

TA231804 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir conferred today with Minister David Levi within the framework of attempts to reach an understanding within the Herut Movement. The meeting was short, and Yitzhaq Shamir's associates said that many more meetings will take place in the next few days in a bid to resolve the situation that has been created in the Herut Movement as a result of the party convention.

Leadership Reported Awaiting Palestinian Initiative

TA241216 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 22 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] Israeli Minister without portfolio 'Ezer Weizman has expressed the belief that Israel should respond with a reciprocal initiative if the Palestinian leadership should put forward any proposal for talks with Israel.

Weizman added that the ball is now in the Palestinian court and we are awaiting an initiative from the Palestinian leadership. He went on to say that this leadership has the support of the Palestinian people and no one has the right to appoint a leadership for the Palestinians.

Weizman stressed that as soon as the Palestinians accept the UN resolutions and recognize Israel, he will be ready to negotiate with them.

Al-Asad Sets Terms For Dialogue With Fatah

TA241302 Jerusalem AL-MITHAQ in Arabic 23 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] Damascus — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has set Syria's conditions for launching a dialogue with members of the Fatah Central Committee. The most important of these conditions, to be announced by the PLO's official leadership in a formal statement in 'Arafat's name, are as follows:

1. The PLO statement should praise the Syrian forces for their role in the 1982 war.

2. The statement should express the official leadership's apology for the media campaign against Syria since the PLO's evacuation from Beirut.

3. The statement must laud the Syrian position in rejecting capitulatory and eliminative solutions and affirm Syria's national role in Lebanon in not allowing the establishment of sectarian ministates.

4. The statement must condemn reactionary Arab efforts to pressure the PLO to recognize Resolution 242.

Amal Militia Reportedly 'Stops' Terrorists

TA241825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The Amal militia has reportedly stopped four terrorists from Sidon from crossing the border into Israel. The terrorists were stopped near Tyre. The report was first published in the weekend editions of Beirut newspapers. The terrorists were identified as members of the Palestine Liberation Army-the South Lebanon Command.

3 Killed, 24 Wounded in ASL Shelling in South

TA241510 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Today 3 people were killed and 24 wounded in the Shi'ite village of Al-Nabatiyah in southern Lebanon in a shelling by cannon of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL]. The shells fell on the outskirts of the crowded market in Al-Nabatiyah. The leader of the Shi'ite Amal militia in the south, Mahmud Faqih, has threatened that his men will take revenge by shelling Israeli settlements and installations. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht points out that ASL soldiers shelled Al-Nabatiyah because this morning 18 katyusha rockets were fired at their positions in the Al-'Ayshiyah area. Nobody was hurt in that shelling.

Responsible Soldier Ordered Jailed

TA241740 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The general staff of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] says today's murderous shelling of the Shi'ite village of Al-Nabatiyah was carried out in contradiction to a specific order by the ASL commander, General Lahd, banning the shelling of populated settlements. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht was told that Gen Lahd has instructed that the soldier responsible for the shelling be jailed.

IDF Sources React

TA241945 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1940 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] IDF sources wish to make it clear that the shelling of the town of Al-Nabatiyah today was carried out by a local army of southern Lebanon [ASL] commander who had not obtained approval for this move. General Lahd has instructed that the officer be jailed. The sources said that the ASL's policy of not striking at civilian settlements has not changed.

DAVAR Interviews Egypt's Lutfi After Cairo Killing

TA211206 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 21 Mar 86 p 1

[Report on interview with Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi by Arab affairs correspondent Dan Avidan, in Cairo on 20 March]

[Text] Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi told Davar last night that the Egyptian Government deeply regrets the killing of Eti Tal-Or and the wounding of three other Israelis in Cairo, adding that his government is doing its best to find the perpetrators of the deed and punish them.

Dr Lutfi conferred last night with Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir after the latter met with Egyptian President Mubarak, Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid, and Tourism Minister Fu'ad Sultan.

The Egyptian prime minister told *DAVAR* that he had a good and friendly talk with Minister Sharir and that he had conveyed his greetings to Prime Minister Peres through Sharir. Dr Lutfi said that he emphasized to Sharir the Egyptian position that the latest incident in Cairo must not adversely affect Egyptian-Israeli relations or the efforts to achieve a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

Dr Lutfi pointed out that he discussed with Minister Sharir ways to encourage tourism from the United States, Europe, and the Far East to Egypt and Israel. The two also discussed eliminating the difficulties in order to promote tourism from Egypt to Israel. The Egyptian prime minister said that no date has been set yet for the visit by the Egyptian tourism minister to Israel, "but he will come to Israel soon."

As for the searches the Egyptian security forces are conducting to find Eti Tal-Or's assassins, Dr Lutfi said that the authorities have as yet been unable to capture the assailants and do not know their identity.

The all-out effort to locate the killers and put them on trial will continue, Dr Lutfi said. "What is most important is that the Israeli public realize that the Egyptian Government deeply regrets this incident and will continue to do everything in its power to bring the murderers to trial, the Egyptian prime minister concluded. [no end quotation marks as published]

5,000 Palestinian Refugees From Egypt Due To Arrive

TA230735 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 23 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by Yosi Melman]

[Text] Within an extremely short time Israel is to take in about 5,000 Palestinian refugees, who are to be transferred from Egypt to the Israeli zone in Rafah, after the construction of the apartments intended for them has been completed. A final agreement on this was achieved in talks between representatives of the two countries in Cairo last week.

In the talks, which were also conducted within the framework of the joint Israeli-Egyptian military committee, it was decided that a detailed timetable for the arrangement for the transfer of the inhabitants of the Canada refugee camp will be determined within an extremely short space of time. Egypt will finance the erection of the apartments for them. The arrangement is as laid down in the peace agreement between the two countries.

Labor Excludes Southern Gaza From 'Security Areas'

TA250629 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Roy Isacowitz]

[Text] Tel Aviv — The committee preparing the Labour Party's platform for the forthcoming national convention has decided to exclude the southern Gaza Strip from the "security areas" to remain in Israel's hands after a peace agreement with Jordan.

The committee also decided during a stormy meeting on Sunday night, to omit mention of the Camp David accords in the clause dealing with interim autonomy measures. The clause was reduced to a single sentence reading: "Israel will initiate and discuss interim measures on the path to peace."

Several members gave notice during the meeting, which was attended by Prime Minister Peres and Defence Minister Rabin, that they would appeal the committee's decisions at the convention.

The committee split between hawks and doves on the issue of security borders, with the latter arguing against border specifications. The hawks prevailed, and the platform will specify the north-western area of the Dead Sea, the Jordan Valley, Gush 'Ezyon, and the environs of Jerusalem as remaining under Israeli sovereignty.

Rabin's demand that the platform not mention interim arrangements was overruled.

Strenuous debate is expected at the conference on the status of settlements in the occupied territories following a peace arrangement. A clause guaranteeing the "continued existence and safety" of the settlements after peace, was retained despite strong opposition.

Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hilel, a leading hawk, gave notice that he would appeal the decision to omit a clause saying that "in the event of a peace arrangement, the refugee problem will find its solution."

The resolution as a whole differs from its immediate predecessors in that it deals with "peace with Jordan and the Palestinians" as a single entity. In its final version it is consistent with Peres's demand that it be sufficiently broad to encompass all options and not create "unilateral facts."

In one of the document's most important clauses, the Labour party commits itself to initiating "wide-ranging discussions with Palestinians who recognize Israel and reject terror." It does not exclude any Palestinians on the basis of their membership in a political group and does not restrict potential partners to residents of the West Bank and Gaza.

MK Mikha Harish, chairman of the diplomatic committee, told *THE JERUSALEM POST* that there was no significance in the fact that the phrase "territorial compromise" did not appear in the resolution. The party's commitment to territorial compromise was implicit in many of the clauses and the need for the phrase itself had simply not arisen, he said.

Hebron Settlers Detained for Rioting at Holy Site

TA250859 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Three settlers living in the Jewish Quarter of Hebron and Qiryat Arba' were detained last night after rioting at the Makhpelah Cave. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that several settlers arrived at the Makhpelah Cave last night after midnight and demanded entry. The soldiers guarding the place prevented their entrance, at which point the settlers, who were apparently drunk, attacked them. They were detained by the Hebron police. The interrogation will be completed today, after which they will be tried.

France's Chirac Says Foreign Policy Not To Change

TA241151 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac has made it clear that there will be no change in French policy towards Israel in the wake of the appointment of a new government. He made the statement in a telephone conversation with Israel's Ambassador to France 'Ovadya Sofer. Sofer this morning gave reporter Michel Zlotowsky this account of the conversation:

[Begin recording] [Sofer] Yes, I had a short conversation over the phone with Mr Chirac, who assured me that the relations with Israel will continue and that there will be no changes in France policy towards Israel.

[Zlotowsky] Mr Ambassador, did you discuss with Prime Minister Chirac the election of a certain amount of representatives from the National Front, the far right-wing party of Jean Marne Le Pen?

[Sofer] No, I haven't discussed this issue. It's purely internal and I don't intend to discuss these things with him.

[Zlotowsky] It was said, Mr Ambassador, that you were one of the first embassies to be reached by Jacques Chirac after his election.

[Sofer] Yes, this is a fact. Mr Chirac reached me over the phone and I was the first ambassador to talk to him after his nomination as prime minister.

[Zlotowsky] This can be regarded as a political gesture, no?

[Sofer] With Jacques Chirac I've had in the last 2 years very close relationship and I think Mr Chirac was anxious to dissipate the negative impression that certain media in Israel attributed to him. [end recording]

More PLO Representation in Spain Not To Affect Ties

TA250636 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
25 Mar 86 p 1

[By diplomatic correspondent Benny Morris]

[Excerpt] Israeli officials believe that Spain's relations with the PLO will not be substantially altered despite the weekend announcement in Madrid on the upgrading of the organization's representation in the Spanish capital.

Senior Foreign Ministry sources in Jerusalem adopted a cautious approach to the Madrid move. But they are convinced that it will not have a deleterious impact on relations between Spain and Israel.

The sources said that the announcement by Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez upon his return to Madrid from a visit to Tunis merely "formalized" an existing situation.

ALGERIA

Foreign Ministry Statement Affirms Support for Libya

LD251249 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Following the deterioration of the situation in the Gulf of Sidra, a spokesman of the Algerian Foreign Ministry made a statement in which he said that Algeria has been following with great concern the implementation of the American threats against Libya, a matter which will lead to a dangerous escalation in the Mediterranean and to a lack of security and stability in this sensitive area.

The flexing of muscles against the fraternal Libyan people constitutes a serious development in a dispute of legal character that should be solved by peaceful means in accordance with the UN Charter which states that the use of force was rejected and unacceptable, particularly when the issue affects the preservation of world peace and security.

Algeria wishes to reiterate its stand on the side of Libya in defense of the sanctity of its sovereignty and gains and calls at the same time for an immediate end to all forms of aggression and for refrainment from pursuing an adventure with consequences that would be difficult to control.

Bendjedid Receives Phone Call From Al-Qadhdhafi

LD242230 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpt] President Chadli Bendjedid received a telephone call this evening from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

FLN Delegation To Attend CPCZ Congress

LD250007 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Algeria will be represented at the 17th CPCZ Congress. A delegation from the FLN party, led by Mr Mohamed Abada, member of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee, left Algiers today for Prague.

Further Reportage on Visit of Tunisian Prime Minister

Joint 'Press Statement'

LD230326 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 22 Mar 86

["Text" of Joint Algerian-Tunisian "press statement" issued in Algiers on the 22 March visit to Algeria of a Tunisian Socialist Destour Party delegation]

[Text] At an invitation of the FLN Party, a delegation of the Tunisian Socialist Destour Party Political Bureau led by that party's secretary general, Mohamed Mzali, visited Algeria on 22 March. President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and FLN Party secretary general, received the Tunisian delegation led by Mohamed Mzali, and which was composed of Socialist Destour Party Political Bureau members Beji Caid Essebsi, Hedi Bekkouche, and Mohamed Chaker.

The Socialist Destour Party delegation held political discussions with a FLN Party delegation under the chairmanship of Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Political Bureau member in charge of the FLN Party Central Committee Permanent Secretariat. The delegation was composed of brothers Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Political Bureau member and foreign affairs minister; Bachir Rouis, Political Bureau alternate member and information minister; and Messaoud Ait Chalal, FLN Party Central Committee member, and Algerian ambassador to Tunisia.

The two delegations held an extensive dialogue on the prospects of building a Greater Arab Maghreb by relying upon the principles cited in the treaty of fraternity and concord signed between Algeria, Tunisia, and Mauritania. The two delegations expressed their satisfaction at the distinctive quality of cooperation existing between the two peoples and countries.

In order to guarantee a continuation of the political dialogue which the two parties have initiated, it was decided that the working group which met today will hold periodic meetings. The next meeting will be held in Tunis next May.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Affirms Confrontation To Continue

LD251220 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1210 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Mar (JANA) — Replying to the White House statements that the American military provocations and maneuvers will continue until the beginning of April in the Mediterranean, the brother commander of the revolution told JANA: We also declare that our brave confrontation will also continue and that the Jamahiriyah is not defending only itself at this moment but the entire Arab nation and its future.

Al-Qadhdhafi Briefs Syria's Khaddam on Events

LD251145 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1127 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Mar (JANA) — The brother commander of the revolution this morning received Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian vice president, who arrived as envoy of the Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The brother commander acquainted the Syrian presidential envoy with the latest developments in the situation concerning the American aggression on the Libyan Arab people.

Al-Qadhdhafi, Bendjedid Discuss Current Situation

LD242216 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] A telephone contact took place today between the brother leader of the revolution and President Chadli Bendjedid concerning the developments of the current international situation.

Foreign Secretary Sends Note to United Nations

LD250955 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0935 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Mar (JANA) — The brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has sent a note to the UN Secretary General. The following is the text of the note:

His excellency, the UN secretary general — New York. I wish to draw your attention to the repeated American military provocative maneuvers off Libyan Arab shores, the last of which being the maneuvers which the American Government has declared to have begun yesterday 23 March 1986.

The repeated maneuvers and threats against the sovereignty of Arab Libya affirm the United States' premeditated aggressive intentions on the sovereignty, freedom and security of Libyan Arab territorial land and water.

As Libya faces up to this premeditated determination by the United States to commit aggression, it believes that the peace of the region and indeed of the whole world is being exposed to a great risk at the hands of the United States.

While drawing the world community's attention through you to this dangerous provocative escalation of the U.S. military exercises, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah issues a warning against the dangerous consequences of this provocation and finds itself as of today forced to prepare to implement Article 51 of the UN Charter; the responsibility falls completely on the United States.

While compelled to adopt this stand, the Jamahiriyah affirms its conviction that the U.S. veto impeded the responsibility of the Security Council which has become incapable of playing its role as protector of world security and peace, and, consequently, Libya has no choice but to protect its security and peace by relying on is own capabilities. Please circulate this memorandum to member-countries and distribute it as one of the United Nations General Assembly documents.

Sudanese Chief of Staff Arrives in Tripoli

LD251116 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1057 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Mar (JANA) — Lieutenant General Muhammad Tawfiq Khalil, member of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council and chief of staff of the Armed Forces people arrived in Tripoli this morning at the head of a delegation on a visit to Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He was met at Tripoli International Airport by Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi and a number of Libyan Arab Armed Forces officers and members of the Sudanese Embassy in Tripoli.

Lt Gen Khalil told JANA that the visit to Jamahiriyah in these circumstances reflects the Sudanese people's stand by their fraternal Libyan Arab people against U.S. aggression affirming Sudan's readiness to place all their capabilities under the disposal of the Libyan Arab people in the face of the U.S. imperialist aggression.

Sudanese Defense Minister Cables Support

LD251442 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the commander in chief of the Libyan Arab forces, has received a cable from Staff Major General 'Uthman 'Abdallah, member of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council and minister of defense, affirming the Sudanese people's stand in one trench with their brother Libyan Arab people in their bold confrontation against the treacherous, terrorist American aggression.

Major General 'Uthman 'Abdallah said in his cable: We have received with great concern the news of the imperialist aggression attempt against the sovereignty of the Jamahiriyah, our sister country. We affirm to you our full support and complete stand by you as you face up to the arrogance of neo-imperialism and defend the sovereignty of your country which is part of the sovereignty of the Arab and Islamic nation. I request you to convey to the brothers in the Jamahiriyah our support for them in one trench in defense of our nation and our glory.

Paris Envoy: NATO Bases Considered Enemy Objectives

LD251620 Paris Domestic Service in French 1600 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The aftermath of the American-Libyan conflict: The Libyan ambassador in Paris, Al-Khudayri said to AFP a while ago that the American and Atlantic bases of NATO are considered as enemy objectives from now on. Al-Khudayri also said that the American aggression had endangered international air and sea traffic.

Reportage on Events in Gulf of Sidra

U.S. Aircraft Downed, Surt Shelled

LD242120 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2103 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Brothers and sisters we have just received the following information: This morning the U.S. Air Force began violating the airspace over the Libyan Arab territorial waters in the Gulf of Sidra. Our air defenses combatted it and shot down three aircraft, two of which were shot down today at noon and the third was shot down this evening. The three aircraft fell into the sea.

At about 1320 the U.S. fleet shelled the suburbs of the city of Surt with rockets. Al-Fatih for ever and the revolutionary struggle will continue!

Live Ammunition Exercises

LD242209 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The vanguard of the armed people carried out tactical maneuvres using live ammunition. The maneuvres were attended by Brigadier General Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, and the chiefs of staff and commanders. In these maneuvres, the vanguard of the armed people asserted its high combat efficiency and advanced ability in using modern weapons. By hitting the targets in these maneuvers, the extent of the combat potential of the vanguard of the armed people was proven.

TASS Cited on U.S. 'Provocations'

LD242340 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The Soviet news agency TASS in its news bulletin today announced the provocative military campaigns of the U.S. Administration against the Libyan Arab people.

The agency noted that these campaigns, which are directed at the Jamahiriyah, seek to violate its sovereignty and to make it bend from its unchanging and principled stands of opposition to imperialism. It said that these provocations also seek to frighten the Libyan Arab people, who are following an anti-imperialist line.

Call To Destroy U.S. Interests

LD250011 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2328 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] This the Voice of the Greater Arab Homeland, the voice of the Revolutionary Committee. To the masses of our Arab nation, to the revolutionary force in our nation: The fighting is (?now on) against U.S. imperialism. [passage indistinct] the Libyan Arab people is now standing on the contact line which is ablaze, fighting to defend Arab dignity and existence.

The fire of war against U.S. imperialism and Zionism [words indistinct]. The Arab (?masses) should (?destroy) U.S. interests and targets everywhere in the Arab homeland so that the United States would know, through the blazing fire destroying its interests and targets, that this nation rejects humiliation and debasement and refuses to stay silent if part of the Arab homeland is exposed to aggression.

The brave Libyan Arab people are now standing with their heads high in the battlefield, in the air, land, and sea. The Libyan people have sworn to make the evil deeds of the aggressors their own punishment, drag the U.S. nose through the mud, shake the earth under the feet of imperialism, and teach the United States a lesson worse than the lesson of Vietnam.

U.S. arrogance and the madness of its President makes them think that the aggression against the Libyan Arab people would be like a picnic and an easy operation. But the U.S. fleet in the Mediterranean is now within the range of our weapons and U.S. aircraft are now food for our weapons.

We will fulfill our promise, which we promised ourselves, to turn the Mediterranean into a sea of fire, to strike mercilessly, and to fight everything that [words indistinct].

U.S. Receives 'First Slap'

LD250051 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2353 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Arab revolutionaries! Free revolutionaries everywhere! America, the enemy of the peoples, murderer of children and women, maker of evil and destruction everywhere! America has come with its arrogance and haughtiness and (?puffed cheeks) and (?flexed muscles) in order to (?intimidate) and commit acts of brigandage and to try to commit aggression in the waters of the Jamahiriyah. It was confronted with a burning Arab fire and received the first slap against its brazen face.

Arab revolutionaries, revolutionaries everywhere! Are there any of the world's nations that have not suffered wounds as a result of America's aggression and crimes? Are there any of the world's nations whose resources have not been plundered by America and whose livelihoods have not been stolen by America? Is there an inch of people's lands that does not bear the fingerprint of American crime and aggression and brigandage? Has there been any crime committed by the Zionist enemy which has not received American permission or arms and money and support? Let it then be the hour of [words indistinct].

'Sea of Blood' Promised

LD250153 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0051 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] We, the masses of the basic people's congresses in the city of Sibratah, while condemning the U.S. fleet's aggression and its violation of the Gulf of Sidra and our territorial waters [words indistinct].

The masses of this city assembled at their battalions [paramilitary groupings] on this night and are now ready to move on the Gulf of Sidra. They stress their intention to form suicide squads [words indistinct] the U.S. enemy and teach him a lesson in bravery. The masses stress that the people are not afraid of the U.S. fleets whatever their power might be. They stress their intention to transform the waters of the Gulf of Sidra into a sea of blood. March forward.

The Masses of the Basic People's Congress in Sibratah Center; 7 October; (?Al-Alalqah); Al-Nil; Al-Khatatbah; [place names indistinct].

Executions of U.S. 'Spies' Urged

LD250213 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0054 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Voice of the revolutionary committees]

[Text] This is directed at the masses of our Arab Nation. The brave men, the protectors of our backs who are standing firmly at the northern gate of the Jamahiriyah and at the Line of Death in the Gulf of Sidra, have added to the Arab glories today. They confronted the U.S. aircraft and made the sky in which they flew a place of hell and stretches of fire. The U.S. aircraft retreated in the face of the Arab eagles, and three U.S. aircraft have been destroyed thus far.

O masses of our Arab nation, we are now looking forward to a pan-Arab earthquake, so that when the morning comes, the whole world will see the rumbling of our nation's masses from the Gulf to the ocean, in every city and village, in the urban and desert regions, while they are racing toward the battlefield and crowding toward the war against the United States.

The oil which the United States exploits and usurps, should now be destroyed. The U.S. bases in the Arab homeland should now be stormed. The U.S. spies pushed forward as experts and consultants should now be executed wherever they might be in the Arab homeland.

'Abd al-Nasir's Egypt in 1956 fought on the side of its people and the Arab nation. Let the war against the United States now be the opportunity to destroy that nation by the hands of the Arab nation, at the forefront of which stands the brave Libyan Arab people. Let every border of the Arab homeland, from the Line of Death in the Mediterranean, be a border of death at which the skulls of the arrogant imperialists will be broken. Let the oath of this nation's men and women be that no invader should return home safely and that no Arab grain of sand will fall under the invaders' feet. Glory be for the Arab nation. Glory and pride for the Arab land. Sovereignty and glory for the Arab sky. Immortality for the brave Arab men who shot down and destroyed the U.S. aircraft.

Revolutionaries in SFRY 'Suicide Soldiers'

LD250407 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0341 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Brother leader and revolutionary, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi: The Libyan Arab revolutionary forces in Yugoslavia, while closely following the U.S. 6th Fleet's actions against the Libyan Arab People and their historic leadership in order to destroy the great civilized achievements in the land of the Great Al-Fatih, and in order to silence the voice which says no to terrorism, no to U.S. hegemony, and no to the power of terrorism and Reagan's arrogance, declare that we are suicide soldiers with the intention of hitting U.S. interests throughout the world. We stress that we will transform our words into action, which will burn and destroy the U.S. terrorist.

Leader, we declare our firm commitment and intention to burn and destroy whatever this Arab revolutionary force can reach in order to strike U.S. targets wherever they might be. [sentence as heard] Leader, we are able to do this. March forward. The revolutionary struggle will continue against the forces of terrorism and injustice.

U.S. Planes Attack Civilian Ship

LD250940 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0927 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Mar (JANA) — U.S. fleet aircraft yesterday attacked a civilian Libyan ship and dropped bombs on it but they did not hit it.

Civilian Planes Used As 'Cover'

LD251036 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1024 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Mar (JANA) — Aircraft of the American fleet off Libyan shores have been pursuing civilian aircraft flying from Europe to Africa to use them as cover and a means for approaching Libyan air space. Informed sources have affirmed to JANA that such actions will expose the safety of civilian aircraft in this region to a serious threat for which, and for its repercussions, the United States would be fully responsible.

Anti-U.S. Demonstration in Banghazi

NC251117 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0944 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Statement by the unidentified spokesman of "the masses of Banghazi municipality" during an anti-U.S. demonstration in Banghazi — live]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In the name of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution, the maker of the era of the masses, the defender of the oppressed, and the subduer of the oppressors. The masses of the basic people's congresses — men and women, old and young, in all groups and production and professional conferences, and producers and students — all have become an armed people who defy every aggressor.

The U.S. and Zionist fleets do not frighten us nor do their planes and cheap and cowardly methods, which only make us more determined and defiant. We say to America: We are fully prepared to destroy its fleets. It must take into account the fact that we are a people who are not afraid of threats, and that we face them as an armed people who have turned towns and villages into military barracks. All the free men in the world, as well as all international and national conferences, support our people. The masses of the people's congresses adopt a stand of steadfastness and confrontation against all the provocations by the leader of world terrorism.

Yes, we are a people who are not afraid of death or threats. This is because we are proud of victory and martyrdom in battles fought so that we may live freely on our land and preach the popular revolution everywhere in the world.

Let all be aware — particularly, the old, mad, coward and bad actor — that this good earth, which begets free revolutionaries, is a huge rock on which all terrorist challenges, whatever their source, will founder.

At this historic moment, we declare that we will turn the Mediterranean into a sea of blood and will turn its skies into nets of fire that will burn that terrorist. [Chants of "With one sign from you, O Mu'ammar, we will destroy the 6th Fleet"]

We, the masses of the basic people's congresses, declare our defiance and steadfastness against all the cowardly and dirty provocations by the leader of terrorism. We will crush U.S. arrogance and rub its nose in the dirt. Long live the Al-Fatih Revolution to attract those who seek guidence and to burn those who seek aggression. God is above the deceit of the aggressor.

U.S. Helicopter Not Intercepted

LD251124 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1110 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Mar (JANA) — JANA has learned that U.S. aircraft yesterday attacked and hit a Libyan civilian ship. An informed source stated that when civilian tugboats went to help the stricken vessel, aircraft of the U.S. Sixth Fleet attacked them.

This was a time when the Libyan Arab forces refrained from intercepting a U.S. helicopter and permitted it to reach an area where two U.S. planes were shot down yesterday. These were two of the three planes shot down by our air defenses. Our forces permitted the helicopter to search for the pilots.

Demonstration at Belgian Embassy

NC251315 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1110 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Statement by unidentified speaker at anti-U.S. demonstration outside the Belgian Embassy in Tripoli — live]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The angry masses have gathered together today to defy the arrogant forces of U.S. imperialism which have attacked us in our own country. The masses of the basic people's congresses, student conferences, and productive workers have gathered together today to declare their defiance of U.S. and Zionist forces. [shouts and cheers] On this day, these masses declare, not their denunciation or anger, but their readiness to fight in the Gulf of Sidra and in every part of the land of the Jamahiriyah and the Arab world. [Demonstrators chant "At one sign from you, O Mu'ammar, we will destroy the 6th Fleet."]

These masses issue a declaration of defiance, of intent to fight until liberation, until victory over America, over Zionism, over imperialism. These defiant masses issue the following statement:

We, the masses of the people's congresses, student conferences, and production conferences, meeting on this historic day in the struggle of our great nation to consolidate its unity and build its pan-Arab existence, declare that we have become suicide squads in every part of our chaste land. [Shouts of "Martyrdom, martyrdom, struggle, struggle"]

The masses gathering in front of the Belgian Embassy, which takes care of U.S. imperialist interests, declare they have become suicide squads in every part of our chaste land from the ocean to the Gulf.

We, the masses gathering today, declare that we have put ourselves in a state of maximum alert to sustain the holy war of confrontation against U.S. imperialism, the people's enemy, and the creator of the entity of the Zionist gangs. [Slogans chanted in English: "Down, down, USA, down, down, USA; Al-Qadhdhafi our leader; Al-Qadhdhafi our leader."]

We, the masses gathering in front of the Belgian Embassy, which takes care of U.S. imperialist interests, declare a state of maximum determination to sustain the holy war of confrontation against U.S. imperialism, the people's enemy, and the creator of the entity of the Zionist gangs, which have destroyed our entity, dispersed our people, and occupied our lands. [shouts and cheers]

We declare a state of direct confrontation with the U.S. imperialist-Zionist camp. We appeal to the masses of our Arab nation from the ocea to the Gulf, above all their revolutionary and active forces, to participate in this immortal pan-Arab battle led by the leader of Arab nationalism Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who is the symbol of our liberation and struggle. Forward: The revolutionary struggle will continue until liberation and victory.

Battle 'Directed' From White House

LD251433 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The JANA political editor has noticed that communiques about confrontation in the Gulf of Sidra are being issued by the White House and not by Pentagon circles, as used to be the case.

At the same time, reports have been coming about continuous meetings and contacts being held by U.S. President Reagan and his senior advisers and senior staff of his administration. This proves that the battle against the Jamahiriyah was being directed from within the White House.

DFLP Leader Supports Al-Qadhdhafi

LD231516 Tripoli JANA in English 1421 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 12, March 23, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution received a message from Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine expressing, on behalf of the front's fighters and militants and the Palestinian people, solidarity with the courageous struggle by the Libyan Arab people against imperialist, Zionist and reactionary schemes and its firm stand in the face of organised American terrorism.

Nayif Hawatimah pointed out in his message that American threats and provocations against the Libyan Arab people was an escalation of the policy of terror being conducted by the Reagan administration in collaboration with the entity of the Zionist gangs in occupied Palestine.

Nayif Hawatimah made clear that, besides American military and economic threats and provocations against the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the United States is conducting a propaganda campaign against the Libyan Arab people in a bid to undermine the militant stance of Jamahiriyah on the side of Arab and international liberation movements fighting against persistent imperialist, Zionist, racist and fascist schemes.

Nayif Hawatimah urged all Arab progressive forces to stand firmly by the Libyan Arab people and its revolutionary leadership in countering American imperialist and Zionist conspiracies and to take practical measures to put and end to American tyranny against Arab intersts and aspirations.

Continuing Reportage on Visit of Algeria's Brahimi

Meets With Al-Qadhdhafi

LD251006 Algiers APS in English 1000 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 24/03/83 (APS) — Colonel Mu'amar al-Qadhdhafi audienced on Sunday in Tripoli, Mr. Abdelhamid Brahimi, supply member of the Politburo, prime minister.

Press Communique Issued

LD251007 Algiers APS in English 1002 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 24/03/86 (APS) — At the end of the official visit paid by Mr. Abdelhamid Brahimi, supply member of the Politburo, prime minister at the head of an Algerian governmental delegation in the Arab Jamahiriyah of Libya a press communique was released.

During his intervention at the opening of the meeting, Commander 'Abd Ahmad Jallud recalled the objectives that the political leaderships of the two countries want to achieve, in this case the union as a prelude to the unity of the Arab Maghreb and the Arab nation one. He recalled in this regard the historical civilizational, geographical sectors and the militantism linking the two brother peoples.

Mr. Jallud also dealt with all the questions of common interest. Concerning these latters, the two sides expressed their satisfaction before the convergence of their analyses and points of views. They decided besides to increase programmes and projects in order to meet the aspirations of the two peoples progress. The two sides examined all the accords and proceedings they signed as they finally proceed to the (?signature) of a cooperation agreement.

Departure Statement

LD251008 Algiers APS in English 1005 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Algiers, 24/03/86 (APS) — Mr. Abdelhamid Brahimi, supply member of the Politburo, prime minister, and his delegation were back yesterday to Algiers, coming from Tripoli, at the end of a three-day official visit to the Arab Libyan Jamahiriyah.

When leaving Tripoli, Mr. Brahimi made a statement to the press in which he indicated that talks between the delegations of the two countries were positive since they resulted in the achievement of common projects in the economic, cultural and technological projects. Mr. Brahimi pointed out that the achievement of these projects constitute an important step in the way of the construction of the Great Arab Maghreb.

On another turn, it is worth recalling that Mr. Abdelhamid Brahimi visited on Sunday the chemical plant of Bu Kammash, which is situated at 160 km west of Tripoli. Explanations were provided to the prime minister by the Libyan cadres in charge of the management of this plant.

People's Congress Praises Cairo Attack on Israelis

LD220750 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0215 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The Arab People's Congress Permanent Secretariat has saluted the Egyptian people and their revolutionary forces who reject capitulation and normalization of relations with the Zionist enemy for the bold attack against 4 Zionists in the Egyptian capital 2 days ago.

In a statement issued yesterday the Permanent Secretariat affirmed that despite imperialism, Zionism, and reaction's endeavors to alienate the Egyptian Arab people from their Arab nation and the Egyptian people's rejection of the hostile designs, the revolutionaries of Arab Egypt lay in wait for all these conspiratorial schemes.

MOROCCO

Libyan Foreign Secretary Arrives in Morocco

LD242356 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Mr Kamil Hasan al-Mansur, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, arrived in Morocco today with a verbal message from the leader of 1 September revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, to His Majesty King Hassan II. Mr Kamil Hasan al-Mansur, in a statement which he made to the radio about this visit said:

[Begin Al-Mansur recording] [Words indistinct] Naturally, my visit to Morocco is not a surprise [words indistinct] I was [words indistinct], assistant secretary general of the Arab-African Union and its historic treaty which link the Jamahiriyah and the Moroccan Kingdom.

I have a verbal message from the brother leader of the revolution to his majesty the king (?in the framework) of the continuous and full consultations between the two leaders, and (?in accordance with) in the treaty which link the Jamahiriyah and the Moroccan Kingdom.

In addition to this, after I was promoted to the post of secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, at the Central People's Congress and after I was assistant secretary general of the Arab-African Union, I have considered that it is my duty and the leadership also thought that I should pay the first visit under [words indistinct] to the Moroccan Kingdom with a message and at the same time (?I should meet) his majesty. Thank you. [end recording]

This was the statement by Kamil Hasan al-Mansur on his arrival to Mohamed V airport.

A Libyan delegation representing the Union Development Committee arrived on the same aircraft to participate in the works of this committee which will meet in Morocco to study the developments projects in implementation under the recommendation of the Economic Council of the Arab-African Union.

SUDAN

Chairman, Defense Minister Meet Egyptian Delegation

JN241804 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1724 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Mar (SUNA) — Transitional Military Council Chairman General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab met here today with the visiting Egyptian military delegation led by Staff Major General Ahmad Salah al-Din 'Abd al-Halim, assistant defense minister and chief of the war operations staff. Following the meeting, the head of the Egyptian delegation said that he conveyed two messages to Gen Siwar al-Dhahab from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and from Minister of Defense and War Production Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah regarding bilateral cooperation in various areas.

The Egyptian ambassador in Khartoum said that the delegation's visit to Sudan falls within the framework of exchanging opinions and consultaions on the situation in both countries. He also described the visit as a step promoting relations.

Defense Minister Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Abdallah received the visiting Egyptian military delegation here today. Following the meeting, he said that the visit is part of the two countries' regular consultations on mutual security and ways to strengthen cooperation in various military areas. The minister denied any link between the visit on the one hand and the fighting in southern Sudan and Ethiopian involvement in support of the Garang forces on the other. He added that Sudan is able to contain the security situation and has no desire to turn the problem into a regional issue or involve other sides in it.

Siwar al-Dhabab Praises Saudi Position, Assistance

JN241908 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1735 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 24 Mar (SUNA) — Transitional Military Council Chairman 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab has expressed his gratitide to His Majesty King Fahd of Saudi Arabia for his positive position toward Sudan and the Sudanese people and for his initiatives to save the Sudanese economy. This came in a statement to the press today in which he listed Saudi Arabia's initiatives and contributions to efforts to save the Sudanese economy.

TMC Member on Ethiopian Aggression in South

JN241822 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1752 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Mar (SUNA) — Transitional Military Council member Staff Major General Fadlallah Burmah Nasir has announced that Ethiopia's aggressions and the Ethiopian warplanes' violation of Sudan's airspace cannot be tolerated. In a statement to the press, he said that since the popular uprising Sudan has adopted the principle of good neighborliness and will continue to adhere to it, adding that if there is any side which does not abide by the principles of good relations, Sudan will be compelled to take political, diplomatic, and even military measures.

Burmah also expressed the hope that the National Alliance will succeed in solving the problem of the south despite indications that the two sides could not reach agreement. He added that this is because of the absence of a clear vision of the dimensions of the problem. He also affirmed that Libya has supported Sudan in various areas and arenas and has not extended assistance to Garang since the uprising.

Continuing Reportage on Addis Ababa Meeting

Alliance Chairman Address

EA221806 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Arabic 1330 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Speech by Dr Khalid Yaji, chairman of the National Alliance for the Salvation of the Homeland [NASH] at 22 March meeting in Addis Ababa between the Sudanese People's Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement and NASH — recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Colonel Doctor John Garang, chairman of the SPLM-SPLA, ladies and gentlemen attending this conference: God's peace and mercy be upon you. Permit me at the outset on behalf of the NASH to welcome you very warmly to this opening session to start the dialogue between representatives of the SPLM-SPLA and the NASH delegation which aims at preparing the appropriate atmosphere for a national democratic conference to deal with Sudan's basic problems.

The start of the triumphant uprising of March-April was one of the most splendid epics of our people in their modern history and was a prelude to directing Sudan along the democratic road. The reins of affairs were held, following the March-April uprising, by a transitional government on the basis of a defined convention and with defined objectives.

Hopes were high that the transitional government would succeed in achieving the greater part of those objectives. Despite the fact that what has been achieved does not satisfy the aspirations of the Sudanese people and their revolutionary spirit and without wishing to elaborate on the reasons for the failures, the indisputable fact is that the March-April uprising and the subsequent transitional period have been a prelude to directing Sudan along the democratic road. Elections are no more than a step forward on that road.

We wish to stress here that the democratic dialogue and the solving of problems by democratic means is the option adopted by the forces of the uprising and accepted by the Sudanese people out of their full conviction and long-standing experiences. We shall continue to appeal and open the door wide and extend our welcoming hand to include all the sons of the one homeland. We are aware of the extent of challenges to this option and the dangers surrounding it. However, we are determined to strive earnestly to ensure and preserve it by all democratic ways and means.

Now, as the question of fighting between the sons of the one homeland going on in the dear southern part of the homeland constitutes one of the questions of concern to anyone who is solicitous about the interests of the homeland, the uprising from the first moment began to make efforts to meet the arms-bearing brothers and to sit with them for the purpose of a dialogue to find an acceptable solution to restore security, stability and unity to Sudan. All efforts in this direction emphasized that the Sudanese people had adopted the democratic road as an option for government, that they had adopted justice and equality as their emblems, that the question of [words indistinct] such as guaranteeing human rights and basic freedoms must come at the top of their priorities. The elimination of the vestiges of the May regime, policies, institutions, laws and symbols must be the starting point for launching Sudan towards the wider horizons of the future. However, all these efforts faced obstacles despite the great efforts in the past, but determination on both sides bore fruit, culminating in this meeting.

The war which is going on now in a dear part of the homeland daily destroyes the valuable lives of sons of the same homeland and consumes vast material resources which we need for development and progress. Indeed, it pains us that this loss of lives and resources should continue. We are therefore of the opinion that this meeting of ours will produce a definite determination to put an end to this bloodshed with all necessary speed. Accordingly, the holding of the anticipated constitutional conference will afford us the opportunity to deal seriously with our national problems with all the eagerness and jealousy for this dear homeland and with the aim of creating a new Sudan, secure, politically stable and with economic and social justice.

From here, we appeal to the SPLM-SPLA to regard this opportunity of our meeting — which came after great effort — as a unique opportunity, particularly as our people's experience over the last 30 years of their history has been [words indistinct] and the failure of attempts of a military solution to our political problems. We must examine our national experience and the experiences of brotherly peoples and our neighbors and draw from them the wisdom of containing our problems, as one people capable of solving our problems and differences in a brotherly, democratic and peaceful manner that takes into consideration the homeland's supreme interests.

The responsibility, brothers, is a historic one. The eyes and hearts of the people of Sudan are fixed on this conference — indeed, the eyes of the whole world are directed towards us and they wonder whether we have the ability, at this point, to solve our problems by ourselves. We are confident that the Sudanese genius, which unleashed two great revolutions in two decades, is capable of overcoming all the obstacles and barriers in order to achieve national unity.

In the name of the NASH, which is expressive of the forces of the March-April uprising -- having promised ourselves to do our utmost to restore security, stability and justice to the regions of unified Sudan -- we pledge to the world to transform our decisions into reality, namely leading Sudan towards the horizon of progress and we pledge to implement this by all democratic ways and means. Here, we must pause to appreciate the effort exerted by delegates of the National Alliance, for the efforts they made to render successful this meeting.

In conclusion, brothers and sisters, we must extend salutions and appreciation to the sisterly neighbor, Ethiopia, both government and people, which created the climate for holding this conference. This is a valuable extension of the contributions made by the Ethiopian people to Sudan. We look forward to more cooperation between our two peoples that will guarantee to serve our common interests for the elevation and prosperity of the two peoples and serve the causes of the African Continent.

Allow me, here, to say in English: Dear brothers and sisters. The power of the popular uprising is here represented in the political parties and over 200 trade unions and associations and the SPLM-SPLA. We are all here, no doubt committed to social, economic and political transformation and hte construction of the new Sudan. Let us take this and make a positive step forward now. [preceding paragraph in English]

Initial Agreement Reached

JN241535 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1517 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Nairobi, 24 Mar (SUNA) — The National Alliance delegation and the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, during their meetings in the Ethiopian city of Koka, have reached an agreement on the broad lines of the situation which should precede official dialogue between the two sides. An informed source has affirmed to SUNA in Nairobi that a committee was formed to formulate the resolutions which have been reached and which have not yet been disclosed.

Further Details

EA251059 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
0900 GMT 25 Mr 86

[Text] In their 12-day [as heard] meeting at Ras Hotel in Koka the delegations from the SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement], and the Sudanese National Alliance for Salvation yesterday agreed to hold the first [as heard] constitutional conference in June 1986 in Khartoum. In a statement at the end of their discussions the leaders of the two delegations said that the meeting had been successful and had created favorable conditions for the convening of the forthcoming constitutional conference.

In a statement [words indistinct] [president of the National Alliance for Salvation] Dr Khalid Yaji thanked the government [words indistinct] of Revolutionary Ethiopia for the welcome accorded to the two delegations and for the great efforts it had made toward the success of the meeting. He said that the basic objective of the meeting to hold a constitutional conference in Sudan and to facilitate preparations for it had been achieved.

Dr Yaji said that the two delegations had agreed to hold another meeting in Addis Ababa on 7 May 1986 to be attended by five members of each delegation in order to prepare for the [words indistinct] constitutional conference.

[Words indistinct] thanked the Ethiopian [words indistinct] for the hospitality accorded the delegation members and for the efforts they made toward the success of the meeting, adding that the meeting had come to a fruitful conclusion.

Lieutenant Colonel Carabino Kuanyin [SPLM delegation leader] reiterated that the Sudanese are confident that they can solve their problems by themselves. He added that among the major issues on which agreement had been reached were those calling for acknowledgement of the southern Sudanese problem as a problem for the whole of Sudan; that Shari'a law and military agreements be cancelled; that the Transitional Military Council would resign [no date given] and that the military agreements signed by Sudan with other countries be cancelled.

SPLA Radio: Nile Battalion Shoots Down Helicopter

EA241546 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The SPLA forces of Nile Battalion have shot down one helicopter which fell in Jur Area. Our correspondent said that the helicopter was carrying the wounded government soldiers from Gogrial Garrison to Waw, among whom was one lieutenant colonel by name (Hesabu). The helicopter was shot down by a PKM machinegun.

SPLA Radio: 71 Troops Killed

EA241907 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] SPLA forces of Nile Battalion, under the command of Maj Paulino Deng Ajok, intercepted a large force of Siwar al-Dhahab's army in Gogrial on 13 March 1986. According to the Radio SPLA correspondent accompanying Nile Battalion, 71 enemy soldiers were killed including one Lieutenant Colonel Daud Rihan, one captain and one first lieutenant. Three cars were destroyed and two cars were forced back to Waw. One of the Magirus cars destroyed bears the plate number 16334. Fourteen shells of 81 mm mortar were captured.

TUNISIA

Foreign Minister Receives Iraqi Counterpart

LD241402 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi this morning had a meeting with the Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Tariq 'Aziz, who said that this meeting falls within the context of consultations on bilateral relations and the issues in the agenda of the Arab League Council.

Tariq 'Aziz stressed that views regarding the agenda and the resolutions that have to be adopted in order to confront the current situation in the Arab arena were identical. He said that he explained to Beji Caid Essebsi the situation on the war fronts and affirmed Iraq's strong readiness to confront the Iranian attack and drive out Iranian invaders from Iraqi territories. Tariq 'Aziz expressed Iraq's appreciation of the fraternal stand of solidarity adopted by Tunisia — president, government, and people — for supporting Iraq in the war it is engaged in for its sovereignty and dignity.

ETHIOPIA

Eritrean Forces Repulse Two Government Army Brigades

JN241942 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1716 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Mar (SUNA) — A military communique issued by the Eritrean Unified National Council [EUNC] has said that EUNC forces repulsed Ethiopian forces which tried to penetrate the liberated countryside on 21 March. The Ethiopian forces were composed of two brigades reinforced by tanks and armored vehicles and tried to penetrate the liberated countryside in the area of Atret near Tessenei neighboring the eastern Sudanese border. The EUNC forced them to return defeated to the city of Tessenei.

The communique said that a battle broke out between the revolutionaries' forces and Ethiopian Government troops which began at 0600 and lasted until 1800, resulting in the killing and wounding of a large number of Ethiopian Government troops. The revolutionaries seized two large vehicles loaded with weapons and ammunition.

The communique explained that the EUNC forces are still controlling more than 80 percent of the Eritrean territory and that Ethiopian troops of over 150,000 fighters, constituting half of the Ethiopian Army, have unsuccessfully been trying to storm the rugged Eritrean countryside for several years.

SOMALIA

Further on Visit by PRC President Li Xiannian

Dinner Held; Speeches Given

EA241906 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0450 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The president of the SDR, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, and his wife, Challe Khadija Maalim Ismail, last night attended a dinner party hosted by the president of the PRC, Mr Li Xiannian, at the Chinese Embassy in Mogadishu.

In an exchange of speeches by the two presidents, President Li Xiannian first of all expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome accorded to him, his wife and his delegation and said that that would leave them with pleasant memories in their hearts. The president of the PRC also stated that there was no doubt that the talks held by the two governments in Mogadishu would further strengthen and broaden the existing friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries particularly in the economic and technological fields. The president went on to say that during their visit they had witnessed the progress made by the people of Somalia in nation-building and economic development and expressed his satisfaction with the good working relationship existing between the Somali public and the Chinese engineers and technicians in Somalia. Mr Li Xiannian wished Challe Siad and his wife good health and progress and prosperity for the Somali people.

The president of the SDR, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, said in his speech that the Somali people had great confidence in the efforts of the Chinese Government and the evident dedication in implementing Chinese development projects in progress in the country. The president expressed his gratitude for the commitment shown by the Chinese experts and workers in Somalia in discharging their responsibilities.

The president of the SDR, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, went on to say that the talks and agreements between Somalia and the Government of China would play an important role in further strengthening relations and fraternal cooperation between the two countries. Challe Siad noted in his speech the great victories scored by the Chinese Government against the shortage of food and scourge of hunger currently affecting parts of the world and said the visit by President Li Xiannian, his wife and delegation to Somalia would promote cooperation by the two governments and the two peoples.

The president of the SDR, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, thanked the president of China for the dinner party and wished him long life and good health. The president also hoped for continued friendship between the two countries and requested the PRC president to convey his impressions of the Somali people and country to the Chinese people.

Li Xiannian Addresses Reporters

EA241902 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0450 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The President of the PRC, Li Xiannian, stated that the Chinese Government welcomes and supports the progress made at the talks aimed at reaching a peaceful solution to the differences between Somalia and Ethiopia, during the meeting of the two heads of state, to pave the way to peace and stability prevailing in the Horn of Africa region. The president of China, who was addressing reporters at the Peoples Hall in Mogadishu yesterday afternoon, said that Somalia and China have very cordial relations dating back to the time that the two countries established diplomatic relations and added that efforts by the two countries have enabled fruitful cooperation by both sides in the political, economic, cultural, agricultural, industrial, educational and social development fields. Turning to the visit he and his delegation are making to Somalia, he said they were impressed by the progress the people of Somalia have made in the economic, cultural, nation-building and other sectors under the correct leadership of President Mohamed Siad Barre.

The president went on to say that the talks he had held with the president of the SDR and other leaders of the Somali Government on bilateral relations and on international issues were cordial and it was noteworthy that the two countries have identical views on international issues and on how to promote cooperation between the two countries which had resulted in the signing of an agreement for economic and technological cooperation. President Li Xiannian said he believes that his visit will cement friendship and understanding between the two sides and will promote the existing friendship and cooperation between Somalia and China.

Addressing himself to the PRC's policy on finding solutions to the major problems of the world, the Chinese president said in pursuing its independent foreign policy based on peace, the Chinese Government was opposed to self-importance and supported world peace in accordance with the five points which form the basis for the principle of peaceful existence. The president added that the strengthening of unity and cooperation between China and other countries in the Third World forms the basis for Chinese foreign policy.

The president went on to say that China's open policy is geared towards promoting economic and technological cooperation between the two sides and that China is willing to search for, and to open the four points of equality, mutual benefit from [words indistinct], emphasis on the practical outcome in various forms and the realization of general prosperity for all.

On the Chinese Government's position regarding the problem in Southern Africa, President Li Xiannian declared that it supports the just struggle of the Namibian people to achieve national independence and the people of South Africa who oppose apartheid and insisted that that the leadership in South Africa should reject apartheid and its policy aimed at disturbing the stability of neighboring countries as well as bringing to an end its illegal occupation of Namibia in accordance with the UN Security Council Resolution 435. He expressed the hope that the international community would work for the realization of these objectives.

CHAD

AFP Carries List of Members of New Cabinet

AB241235 Paris AFP in English 1125 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Ndjamena, March 24 (AFP) — Following is the list of ministers and secretaries of state (junior ministers) appointed Sunday by Chadian President Hissene Habre, who is also defence minister:

Minister of state without portfolio: Djijingar Bono Ngardoum

MINISTERS

Foreign affairs: Gouara Lassou
Territorial administration: Ibrahim Mahamat Itno
Justice: Djibril Negue Djogo
Mines and energy: Adoum Moussa Seif
Public works, hospitals and town planning: Moussa Kadam
Education: Mahamat Senoussi
Finance and computer technology: Mbailem Bana Ngarnayal
Food security and natural disaster: Taher Abdel Djelil
Livestock and pastoral water supplies: Taher Guinassou
Agriculture and rural development: Baniara Yoyana
Public health: Mahmat Nour Mataye
Tourism and the environment: Mbailao Naimbaye Lozimian
Posts and telecommunications: Assilek Halata
Civil service: Routouang Yoma
Labour, employment and job training: Yomite Romba
Transport and civil aviation: Abderramane Ali Abdoul
Culture, youth and sport: Djibrine Grinky
Planning (minister delegated by the Presidency): Soumaila Mahamat
Presidential adviser: Ouang Monching Homsala

SECRETARIES OF STATE

Information and guidance: Moumine Togoi Hamidi
State inspection and control: Haroun Godi
Foreign affairs: Ahmed Korom
Interior and territorial administration: Ngargos [single name as received]
Education: Mbailao Djimalde
Finance and computer technology: Brahim Said
Food security and natural disasters: Kah Nadji Yamarke
Agriculture and rural development: Seid Bauche
Public health: Pierre Tokinou
Trade and industry: Amos Reoulengar
Government secretary-general: Youssouf Sidi Sougoumi
Deputy secretary-general: Beral Moise

Congo Minister Says Goukouni, Habre To Meet

AB242119 Libreville Africa No 1 In French 1830 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The meeting between Goukouni Oueddei and Hissein Habre will effectively take place in Brazzaville. The Congoiese minister of foreign affairs, Ndinga-Oba, stated this today in Libreville following a meeting with Gabonese President Bongo. The Congolese minister, who is currently touring the various capitals of the Central African region, did not, however, specify a date for the meeting. Listen to Mr Ndinga-Oba speaking to Rodrigue Assele:

[Begin Ndinga-Oba recording] As a matter of fact, there will be a meeting. (?You will be informed) in due course. We have made the necessary contacts with those concerned: With the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government], with the Ndjamena government. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Arms, Vehicle Seizures From GUNT Forces Reported

AB222236 Paris AFP in French 1534 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Ndjamena, 22 Mar (AFP) — More than 200 vehicles — all-purpose, transport or equipped with heavy arms — were collected from the "enemy" by the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] during the fighting taking place in northern Chad since 10 February, according to official reports published in Ndjamena. These large quantities of equipment supplied by Libya to the forces of Goukouni Oueddei's Transitional National Union Government (GUNT, armed opposition to Ndjamena) and collected by the Chadian Army on the battlefield, it is observed in Ndjamena, enables the GUNT to cheaply equip itself with arms to the point that Mr Hassan Djamous, the FANT commander-in-chief, does not hesitate to state that "since 1980, Libya is our principal arms supplier."

After the fighting in Kouba Olonga, Zigey, Oum Chalouba-Kalait, and recently in Chicha, situated on both sides of the 16 parallel, various official reports have made it possible to establish the fact that the FANT seized some [figure indistinct] 4-wheel drive Toyota vehicles equipped with 14.5-mm double-barreled or single-barreled heavy machineguns, ground-to-ground missiles, and communications equipment, as well as about 100 all-purpose vehicles, meant for carrying troops, about 40 heavy transport vehicles or tankers, and about half a dozen light Brazilian Cascavel armored cars. In addition to this "impressive collection" of equipment, they seized about a hundred individual weapons, and some ammunitions. The war booty, according to Chadian military sources, is to be used immediately after repairs.

At present, Mr Hissein Habre's army, according to all the observers in Chad, has a significant combat capability thanks notably to French and American military aid.

According to reliable sources in Ndjamena, France supplied the FANT with 90 Panhardt light armored cars, and other all-purpose vehicles, Milan antitank missiles and rocket-launchers, ammunition and communications equipment. In addition to this French military aid, which is considered very important by the Chadian authorities, there is the American military aid which is mainly made up of spare-parts, individual weapons, M-16 assult rifles and light M-60 machineguns and Red Eye surface-to-air missiles.

Moreover, the American Government has just granted the Chadian Government a $10 million (3.5 billion CFA) additional emergency military aid. The C-130 Hercules transport aircraft which, crashed in an accident on 7 March at the end of the Ndjamena Airport runway, might soon be replaced, it was hinted by American sources in the Chadian capital.

RWANDA

Soviet Solidarity Delegation Arrives on Visit

AB221200 Paris AFP in French 1120 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Kigali, 22 Mar (AFP) — A delegation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries arrived in Kigali on Friday night on a visit to Rwanda at the invitation of the National Revolutionaty Development Movement (MRND -sole party)

The delegation is led by Mr Brovikov ,member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Belorussia (one of the 16 republics of the Soviet Union). It will visit certain development projects and will hold talks with political and adminstrative authorities.

ZAIRE

Congolese Foreign Minister Arrives With Message

AB211839 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1430 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 21 Mar (AZAP) — Congolese Foreign Minister Antoine Ndinga-Oba arrived in Kinshasa today from Brazzaville for a 24-hour official visit to the Zairian capital.

Upon arrival at the Ngobila beach, Mr Ndinga-Oba explained that he brought a message from Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso to his Zairian counterpart and brother, Marshal Mobutu. According to him, this message concerns relations [words indistinct] between Congo and Zaire, reflecting the friendly and fraternal relations existing between the two heads of state.

Questioned about the date on which the reconciliation conference arranged between the Chadian Government and the opposition — the Transitional National Union Government — would be held, Mr Ndinga-Oba stated that arrangements have already been made for the conference but he did not specify the date.

UNITA-Released Foreign Hostages Transit Kinshasa

AB211340 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1824 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 20 Mar (AZAP) — The hostages released recently by UNITA — numbering 190 — transited Kinshasa on Thursday morning on their way from Lubumbashi. The released hostages, who were welcomed notably by Portugal's ambassador to Zaire, Alvarro Guerra, and the British charge d'affaires to Zaire, Mr Crompton, were scheduled to leave the Zairian capital the same day for Lisbon on board a Portuguese Airline, TAP, special flight.

It is recalled by an authorized source in Kinshasa that President Mobutu Sese Seko gave in to the request by the International Red Cross to let the UNITA hostages transit in Zaire. The source points out that it was at the end of last week, when the head of state was on board his yatch at about 600 km from Kinshasa, that 44 UNITA soldiers, together with a group of hostages, crossed the border into Zaire from the side of River Kasai which separates Zaire from Angola.

As soon as he was informed of this situation, Marshal Mobutu ordered an investigation into how the UNITA soldiers were able to penetrate into Zaire. He also gave instructions for these soldiers to be disarmed and returned to where they came from.

The same source points out that what is most shocking to the Zairian authorities in this affair is the attempt by UNITA to make it appear that there exists a kind of link with the Zairian Government, while since 1978 (date of normalization of relations between Kinshasa and Luanda) Kinshasa scrupulously respects the spirit of the agreements signed with Angola, which includes the maintenance of relations of good neighborliness between the two countries.

In this context, Mokolo wa Mpombo, state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation, received on Tuesday Miguel Gaspar Neto, ambassador of the People's Republic of Angola to Zaire. During the meeting, which centered mainly on relations between Zaire and Angola, Mr Mokolo reaffirmed the concern of the Zairian Government to maintain relations of good neighborliness between the two countries, in conformity with the spirit of the agreements signed in 1978.

BURKINA FASO

Guinean Minister Arrives for ANAD Summit, Comments

AB241712 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] On the eve of the 11th CEAO [West African Economic Community] summit meeting, visitors to the Presidency of Burkina Faso have been following one another.[sentence as heard] It is in this connection that Comrade Thomas Sankara, president of Burkina Faso and chairman of the CNR [National Council of the Revolution], this morning received Guinean Defense Minister Sory Doumbouya. The Guinean minister, who is in Ouagadougou at the invitation of his Burkinabe counterpart, explained to the press the purpose of his visit.

[Begin recording] [Doumbouya] I have come to Burkina Faso at the invitation of my colleague, the minister of national defense, to attend the ANAD [Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement] meeting as an observer.

[Unidentified reporter] Can we say that Guinea is planning to join the ANAD soon?

[Doumbouya] We have not made any such decision yet. But since last year, we have been attending the ANAD summit as an observer.

[Reporter] Well, as an observer, what importance do you attach to the ANAD?

[Doumbouya] Its [words indistinct] are not very well defined but we know, all the same, that it is an efficient organization which can be useful to our subregion.

[Reporter] What is the new defense policy under the new regime in Guinea?

[Doumbouya] As far as defense is concerned, we are reorganizing ourselves, because under the former regime, defense did not really exist. Now that the Army is in power, we are putting things in order. [end recording]

ANAD Ministerial Session Opens in Ouagadougou

AB241156 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
0630 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The 10th session of the ANAD [Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement] Ministerial Council opened at the CEAO [West African Economic Community] conference hall last night. Present at the opening session were representatives from Guinea, Mauritania, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Togo, and Benin as well as the chiefs of staff of the ANAD member countries.

In his opening address, ANAD Secretary General Jean Gomis, on behalf of the personnel of ANAD and on his own behalf, thanked the Burkinabe people, the National Council of the Revolution [CNR], and the revolutionary government for the fraternal reception accorded them. While placing the current annual session within the context of reporting on (?CCAP) [expansion unknown] activities and future prospects, Gen Jean Gomis underscored the credibility of ANAD gained through the unfortunate events of the Christmas Day war, a war which, according to Gen Gomis, enabled ANAD to become well known by the world with its first experience of war. The secretary general also thanked all the countries which contributed to the signing of the cease-fire agreement, and then presented the items on the agenda.

[Begin Gomis recording] The documents that will be presented to you for examination, after being studied by ANAD experts, include, as in preceding years, draft protocols which are legal instruments indispensable to the functioning and effectiveness of our organization. The most important among these are the draft project relating to the administration and financing of a common action; supplementary draft protocol on the creation of regional committees for assistance in civilian protection. You will also be presented with some recommendations made by the meeting of the committee of experts, and relating to financial and political issues that are likely to have important repercussions on the functioning of the General Secretariat and the dynamism of ANAD.

Finally, you will be presented with the draft budget for 1986, a budget of rigor and austerity, as the experts put it, because of the alarming economic situation prevailing in nearly all the member-countries.

The program for the year 1986 includes studies of some protocols and diverse activities that are necessary and desirable within the limits of our financial resources and fall within ANAD's set objectives.

As such, honorable ministers, ladies, gentlemen, even though ANAD does not participate directly in production, one can be assured that it works indirectly to this end. In fact, through its very existence and its capacity of intervention in the area of defense, it enables our population to take an active part in the economic and cultural life, in an atmosphere of peace and security. For the future, it is hoped that the umbrella of ANAD will be usable and not overused and that the political will of member-countries will converge solidly toward the protection of the economy and toward civilian protection, areas in which we have much more to do. [end recording]

Speaking after Jean Gomis, Comrade Boukar Jean-Baptiste Lingani, current chairman of the ANAD Ministerial Council, welcomed the participants to Ouagadougou, to the free land of Burkina Faso. Speaking on behalf of the Burkinabe people, who aspire toward peace and solidarity, and on behalf of the CNR and the revolutionary government, the comrade minister of popular defense stressed the conviction of Burkina Faso as to the success of the meeting. He criticized the mind-poisoning campaign launched by the international press against our country. Our revolution, he affirmed, seeks the well-being of the working masses and has opted for cooperation, solidarity, and friendship between peoples. He thanked ANAD for its efforts during the Christmas Day war and asked for a minute's silence in memory of the four Ivorian pilots who died while on a mission.

Ministers Meet With Sankara

AB242232 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The current chairman of the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement, ANAD, Comrade Thomas Sankara, granted an audience this afternoon to the foreign affairs and defense ministers of the ANAD member-countries and those of Benin and Guinea who have been attending the preparatory meeting of the ANAD summit. After the audience, Ivorian Foreign Minister Simeon Ake summed up the talks with the comrade president and spoke of the future of the ANAD.

[Begin recording][Ake] It is a tradition for the heads of delegation to an important conference such as ours to pay a courtesy call to the head of state. This is what we just did this afternoon when President Sankara readily received us and devoted some of his precious time to us. He is getting ready to receive his colleagues from the West African Economic Community (CEAO) and the ANAD. This implies a lot of worries and work on the part of the heads of state. We are particularly grateful to President Sankara for having received us.

We briefed the president on the deliberations of the Council of Ministers which Minister Lingani chaired successfully and determinedly. I think that these deliberations will be completed quite soon, (?probably) tonight. We have arrived at a general consensus on all points that we examined at the recommendation of the experts.

[Unidentified reporter] Can you tell us something about the past activities of the ANAD, and how (?do you see)[words indistinct]?

[Ake] We believe that ANAD is quite a young institution which is taking its first steps. So we are meeting now to make recommendations to the heads of state with the view to strengthening both its structure and its means so as to enable it to play its rightful role, that is to contribute to promoting an era of peace, stability, and security in our subregion.

[Reporter] The ANAD family is growing bigger. Have you examined (?measures) to admit other states?

[Ake] The ANAD is (?open) to African countries, especially to those of the subregion. [Words indistinct] of interregional cooperation, there are two observer countries: Benin and Guinea. The ANAD has quite bright prospects. We hope that, after due reflection and consultations within their institutions, these brotherly countries will decide to join us. That is our wish though I think this falls under the competence of the heads of state. They will (?certainly) be happy to realize that two other countries — CEAO [words indistinct] — have joined the organization. [end recording]

CEAO Affair, Other TPR Trials Open 25 Mar

AB241112 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpts] It is on next Tuesday [25 March] at 1500 that the 15th session of the People's Revolutionary Tribunal [TPR] will open at the People's Hall in Ouagadougou. A Justice Ministry communique, which announces the holding of this session, states that six cases are to be tried during this session. The cases are:

1. The State of Burkina Faso versus Edouard Ouattara, Youssouf Kabore, Kani Pascal Yien, Inousaa Kanbou, Mamadou Sow, and Jules Poda, all accused of embezzlement of public funds totalling 30,450,500 CFA francs to the detriment of Air Afrique airline, and the use of a false documents and illegal enrichment. [passage omitted on Cases 2 thru 5, minor cases of embezzlement]

6. This 15th session will also try the CEAO [West African Economic Community] affair in which the leading accused — Mohamed Tiecoura Diawara, former minister, former president of the Dakar Club and businessman; Moussa Ngom, former secretary general of the CEAO; and Moussa Diakite, former director of the FOSIDEC [Solidarity and Intervention Fund for the Development of the Community] — will appear. These persons have been accused of forgery, use of false documents and the embezzlement of public fund of more than 6 billion CFA francs, and illegal enrichment. This affair, on which much has been written and said, has been presented and commented upon in various ways by various people. With this 15th session, the truth must and will come out in this affair.

Undoubtedly, this session will attract the attention of all the member states of the CEAO who found themselves duped out of the handsome sum of 6 billion CFA francs by a gang of unscrupulous people with solid connections with high international financial circles. This trial will try to expose the underhanded dealings maintained in the oligarchical lobbies by Diawara and companions with the magnates of international financial capital, the real saboteurs of Africa's struggle for its economic and social development.

Apart from the embezzlement of the 6 billion CFA francs, it is also the negative role played by some top African functionaries and the management of subregional organizations which are also to be proved in this session. Rather than being experts or specialists in such and such a field of development, these dishonest intellectuals specialised in the field of high financial deliquency, thus each day bringing to its knees the establishments entrusted to them by the people, who today see their hopes shattered. The case of the CEAO is today only symptomatic of such a situation in Africa.

Diawara and former CEAO executives — Moussa Ngom and Moussa Diakite — should show where they put the 6 billion CFA francs of the FOSIDEC or how it was used. In any case, the TPR will help them to do so, and it will only be the better for the interest of the people of the member-states of the CEAO. In this CEAO affair, we dare hope that the defense of the accused would be made in the spirit of the defense of the interests of the community; defense of truth and equity without lawyers using any procedure whatsoever to exonerate their clients. They should defend the legal rights of this client, and not to defend, through this client, deliquency itself. In any case, we know we can count on the perspicacity of our judges who, after all, have great experience in handling the proceedings of the TPR's. In so doing, they will not allow any legal gimmicks to obstruct the search for the truth.

The TPR, as a powerful weapon in the hands of the Burkinabe people, will be able, as usual, to be the defender of just causes. With this 15th session, the TPR will be in the service of more than 35 million peoples of the CEAO, and beyond them in the service of Africa roused to indignation.

ALG Council of Ministers Meeting Ends

AB241145 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The 22d ordinary session of the council of ministers of the Liptako-Gourma Authority for Integrated Development [ALG], which began this morning, ended this afternoon. Items on the agenda included the report of the chairman of the council of ministers, that is the presentation of the results of the [words indistinct]. The ministers reviewed the Bamako summit, progress on the authority's development program, the [word indistinct] and financial situation, and the items on the agenda of the forthcoming summit conference of heads of state.

GAMBIA

Senegalese-Trained Gendarmerie Corps Established

AB250925 Paris AFP in English 0908 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Banjul, March 25 (AFP) — A gendarmerie corps trained by officers from neighbouring Senegal and equipped by France paraded here Monday before Gambia's President Sir Dawda Jawara.

Presenting its colours, he said the new unit would provide tactical support to the police and the army, as part of the integration of the Senegambian Armed Forces called for by the two countries' defence pact.

English-speaking Gambia and Francophone Senegal, which is 20 times the size of Gambia, formed a confederation in 1982, six months after Senegalese troops crushed an insurrection by the Gambian paramilitary field force.

LIBERIA

UP Senator Refuses To Quit Senate on Party's Order

AB242226 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Grand Cape Mount Senator Ruth Peres today said she would remain in the Senate and continue to serve the Liberian people despite her expulsion from the Unity Party [UP]. Senator Peres, along with other UP members in the national legislature were expelled from the party on March 12 by the party's Executive Committee for accepting their seats in contravention of the party's order. The UP is one of three opposition parties which refused to accept their seats won in the October 15 general elections.

Speaking at a press conference today at the Capitol in Monrovia, Mrs Peres said her decision to remain in the Senate was based on her belief in national reconciliation and her commitment to SECOM [Special Election Commission] to take her seat as an elected legislator, adding: I will take my seat because of the confidence my people have in me and for the furtherance of my obligations to my country and people. Mrs Peres explained that her move to accept her seat was endorsed by the leadership of the UP, particularly the local and national chairmen of the party. She said: In spite of this, several malicious attempts had been made by certain selfish members of the Executive Committee of the party to have them expelled from the party without any due process.

Madame Peres said: Even though they were elected on the UP ticket, they belonged to various constituencies which they are mainly accountable to, adding, as dedicated, patriotic and peace-loving people, we are committed to securing the peace, tranquility, stability and economic, as well as the social well-being of our people who elected us.

UPP Leader Interviewed on Resuming Politics

MB261813 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 20 Mar 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Political parties in Liberia are busy getting their act together to mount an effective opposition to Samuel Doe's ruling NDPL [National Democratic Party of Liberia]. The Liberian Unification Party, the Unity Party , and the Liberian Action Party announced last weekend that they were forming an opposition coalition, while a couple of weeks ago the United People's Party, UPP, signalled its intention to resume political activities despite the ban imposed on it by Samuel Doe in August, before last year's controversial elections and the attempted coup.

The UPP's leader, Baccus Matthews, is in the United States. On the line to New Jersey, Rich Wells asked him why the UPP had decided to reactivate now.

[Begin recording][Matthews] It's more a matter of timing. At the time the party was banned, we had no constitution in Liberia. It was a military government and we had no rights, constitutionally, so we were expelled. Now in Liberia we have a constitution and the party is resuming its activities consistent with the positions of the constitution. Furthermore, last year — when we were banned — we saw the ban as a provocation, perhaps calculated to provoke the party into a confrontation with the government and we decided that we would never act on the timing of others.

[Wells] What exactly do you mean by the resumption of political activities?

[Matthews] Well, we won't [as heard] be carrying on the normal functions of the party, that is articulating a program engaging in the democratic process to select party officials , explaining the views of party members with regard to common issues of the day in the country, and, of course, getting ready for such time as there will be local government elections.

[Wells] But, officially, you are still banned in Liberia, are you not?

[Matthews] Well, there was an order banning the party in August last year. We believe that that has been obviated by the positions of the constitution.

Liberia now has a constitution which provides fundamental rights to the citizens of the country all laws to the contrary notwithstanding. So, officially, the ban has been lifted by the advent of a civilian government in Monrovia.

[Wells] Why is it that you are not in Monrovia yourself at the moment?

[Matthews] I travelled to the United States late last year, following a motor accident in Monrovia. I came out here seeking medical assistance and after completion of medication I was on my way to Monrovia and a few hours before boarding the plane, I received calls from Monrovia indicating that the government had dispatched troops to the airport and since we didn't know what that was supposed to mean, it was suggested to me that I should sidestep what could quite likely be an Aquino reception, and so I'm here waiting for a word from party leaders in the country as to such time as to believe it is auspicious for (?my return).

[Wells] The other opposition parties at the weekend in fact joined forces in a coalition. Now is that something you would like to be part of?

[Matthews] Well, you know I was ... [changes thought] my party was an advocate of a merger of political forces in the country quite some time ago. We think that, as welcome as the idea is today, it is almost 2 years too late. But we think it is a first step in what should have been the right direction.

NIGERIA

Joint Commission With Guinea Meets in Lagos

AB241915 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Nigeria has called for stronger economic relations between her and Guinea. Opening a 4-day session of the Nigeria-Guinea Joint Economic Commission in Lagos today, the minister of national planning, Dr Kalu IdikaKalu, noted that the inaugural session in Conakry reviewed the level of economic, industrial, technical, and cultural cooperation between the two countries. He said very little has been achieved in those areas and hoped there would be improvement.

His Guinean counterpart, Mr Benjamin, observed that his country had not been actively involved in international economic cooperation because of its economic recession. He, however, expressed (?his country's) preparedness to go into joint ventures with Nigeria and Nigerian industrialists. Mr Benjamin said his country has vast agricultural and mineral resouces that could also be beneficial to Nigeria.

SIERRA LEONE

Number of Nominated Parliament Members To Increase

AB241625 Paris AFP in English 1509 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Freetown, March 24 (AFP) — The number of nominated members to parliament in this small West African state is to be increased from seven to ten, in accordance with a bill passed here last Friday by parliament. The bill effectively amends Sierra Leone's Constitution, under which the president is empowered to nominate citizens from any walk of life to become parliamentarians and even Cabinet ministers. Friday's session was (?the first) parliament sitting since President Joseph Momoh was elected head of state after the retirement of Siaka Stevens last November. Parliamentary elections are due to be held early May.

ANGOLA

UNITA Reports Attack on U.S.-Operated Oil Complex

PA251234 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 1220 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Lisbon, 25 Mar (REUTER) — The Angolan rebels of UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] today stated that early yesterday they shelled and attacked with mortars a petroleum complex operated by a U.S. firm in Malongo in the northern Angolan province of Cabinda and that they caused heavy damage to it.

A UNITA spokesman reported in Lisbon through a telephone communique that UNITA guerrillas also dynamited sections of an oil pipeline in Chimbondo, Ukumazi, Chinda, and Santa Catarina in the same province. The spokesman added that fires caused by those attacks have yet to be extinguished.

15 Mar UNITA Attack Repelled; 10 Killed

MB201344 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The national security and defense forces stationed in Uige Province repelled an attack by the UNITA armed bandits in Maquela do Zombo municipality on 15 March.

A total of 10 criminals were killed and another 4 counterrevolutionaries in the pay of the racist South African regime were captured. Variety of war materiel was captured by the FAPLA forces who immediately began a pursuit operation against the enemy.

In the 6th military region, the Angolan Army has continued its search and destroy operations against the armed bandits. They killed 110 UNITA criminals during the first 2 weeks of March. A further 14 counterrevolutionaries were captured by the FAPLA forces, who also seized 20,000 rounds of ammunition, more than 100 light and heavy weapons, mines of various types, several dozen handgrenades, and other military equipment.

A total of 62 people who were abducted by the bandits and taken to the jungle were freed during that period.

74 Government, 4 Cuban Troops Killed 17-19 Mar

PA242350 Paris AFP in Spanish 2303 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Lisbon, 24 Mar (AFP) — A communique by UNITA published in Lisbon today reports that 74 Angolan and 4 Cuban soldiers were killed in the past few days by UNITA guerrillas.

The government and Cuban troops were killed in clashes which occurred from 17 to 19 March in three provinces of Angola, the communique added.

For its part, the movement headed by Jonas Savimbi sustained two dead, seven wounded, and two missing, the communique added.

Accord on Training of Youths Signed With GDR

MB191349 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, received a message from Eric Honecker, chairman of the GDR Council of State, in Luanda this morning.

This message was conveyed verbally by Kurt Kleinert, state secretary and director of the GDR Council of Ministers. Yesterday, continuing his official visit to Angola, Kurt Kleiner signed an accord on the training of Angolan youths in fields related to government. The Angolan side was represented by Flavio Fernandez, secretary of the Council of Ministers, who had invited the GDR official to Angola.

Within the framework of these accords, Angolan students will have the opportunity to attend the GDR's [words indistinct] as well as the [words indistict] science institute between 1986 and 1991.

MADAGASCAR

Chinese President Arrives for 4-Day Visit

AB241555 Paris AFP in French 1431 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Antananarivo, 24 Mar (AFP) — PRC President Li Xiannian arrived in Antananarivo this afternoon for a 4-day visit to Madagascar. He was welcomed at the Ivato International Airport by the Malagasy president, Didier Ratsiraka, and several members of his government. A 21-gun salute was fired in his honor. The Chinese president was coming from Somalia where he had paid a 4-day official visit.

MOZAMBIQUE

Six 'Bandits' Killed in Inhambane Province

MB191134 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] A total of six armed bandits have been killed by the Mozambique Armed Forces in Libomb area, Jangamo District, Inhambane Province. The bandits were killed last Thursday following an operation mounted by the FPLM, which also resulted in the destruction of an armed bandit camp and the capture of war materiel.

Also in Inhambane Province, in Malaia area to be precise, 21 armed bandits handed themselves over to our authorities with their respective weapons. Reports from Morrumbene reveal that another five bandits who handed themselves over recently are in the process of being reintegrated into society.

29 'Terrorists' Killed in Maputo

MB220722 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Mozambican security forces killed 29 South African-backed MNR terrorists in a suburb of Maputo last night. An AIM reporter visited the scene this morning and counted the corpses. The terrorists had killed five civilians while trying to carry out acts of sabotage in the areas of (Mulutene), Salala and (Soninase) earlier in the night. The terrorist group was ambushed by the security forces before dawn and survivers were being pursued. The bandit gang had kidnapped 15 people but all were freed when the army moved in. The army reports that 17 other MNR terrorists were killed in other parts of Maputo Province on Monday and Thursday of this week.

NAMIBIA

Proposal on Administrative Division Discussed

MB201323 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1321 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Windhoek, March 20, SAPA — A cabinet committee of the SWA/Namibian transitional government began meeting today to discuss proposals to divide the territory into six administrative regions controlled by the central government, political sources reported in Windhoek.

A document, jointly complied by the SWA National Union and SWAPO-Democrats in the government, forced the basis of the discussions.

The meeting was seen as an effort by the government to arrive at an interim arrangement that would move away from the politically controversial Proclamation AG 8 in SWA/Namibia, which provides for the institution of 11 second-tier ethnic authorities. The sources said the proposals were particularly aimed at preventing another "AG 8 budget" from being prepared this year before June.

In terms of the proposals each region, also described as provinces, would be administered by regional councils whose members would be recruited from the present ethnic legislative assemblies. Each council would be headed by a governor and deputy governor.

The central government would appoint eight councillors — each representing a cabinet minister — to each region, who would be assigned with carrying out central government policy, and all second-tier functions would be centralised. Where two or more ethnic authorities found themselves in the same province, agreement on power-sharing would have to be negotiated.

Sources said there was general agreement on a geographic division of SWA/Namibia, but some government members felt the delimitation should be done by experts to ensure an equitable distribution of the population in the various provinces.

SOUTH AFRICA

White Policeman Shot, Burned in Crossroads

MB251047 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1034 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 25, SAPA — A young white policeman was found shot dead and burnt in Mahobe Drive near Crossroads squatter camp early today.

A police spokesman said the body of the Guguletu-based constable — whose identity was known but was being withheld until his relatives had been notified — was off duty at the time of the attack.

While police were conducting investigations at the scene about 10.55am today, shots were fired nearby and police took cover. Police immediately moved to counter an expected attack and further shots were heard, but it was not known whether they were fired by police or whether anyone was wounded.

In nearby Old Klipfontein Road, at least two vehicles were set alight while investigations were being carried out and police and troops rushed to the scene to put out the fires.

Lieutenant Attie Laubscher, a police liaison officer, said police were notified of the body about 7am. The possibility that he had been killed about 30m into Crossroads and that his body had then been dragged into the road was being inevstigated. Police spokesmen in Pretoria said his car had disappeared.

It is not known what time he was killed, but a local resident said he had heard about 7am that there was a body in the street near the intersection with Sihlanu Avenue. When he arrived there the man was dead and a crowd was standing around.

Reporters allowed into the cordoned-off investigation area saw the dead man lying on his back. He seemed to have been stripped before refuse and a sack were placed on top of him. Bricks were scattered around his head and it seems the body had been stoned where it was set alight.

Police sealed off the area with casspirs and senior police officers, including Brigadier Ronnie van der Westhuizen, CID [criminal investigation division] chief for the Western Cape, and his deputy, Colonel Nick Acker, went to the scene. They were joined by members of the murder and robbery squad, some of whom were armed with sub-machineguns.

Reaction unit members took up positions near the scene and some climbed on the roofs of Crossroads shacks to obtain better vantage points. As policemen were about to leave the area there were popping noises, like the sound of a light-calibre weapon. One policeman yelled "Pasop, pasop" [look out] while others took shelter behind vehicles.

Reporters were ordered out of the area immediately and detectives grabbed weaponry from the boots of cars. A casspir which had been part of the cordon drove off through back streets. Further shots were heard but it could not be established who was firing. Then there was quiet.

Lt Laubscher told the press to leave as an officer felt they were causing a crowd to gather. It was pointed out to him that a crowd had been present before the press arrived, but reporters were told to leave.

Investigating Policeman Killed

MB251140 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1130 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 25, SAPA — Two policemen — one of whom had been suspended for alleged drug dealing — were shot dead in separate incidents near the Crossroads squatter camp today.

The body of the suspended policeman, a young constable who had been stationed at Guguletu, was found about 7am in Mahobe Drive next to Crossroads.

He had been shot and stoned and his body had been covered with garbage and set alight. First news reports indicated that the suspended officer had been the victim of a "necklace" killing because the body had been found burning.

About 12.30pm, a policeman apprently deployed in the area after the murder, died after being shot in the eye in Eisleben Road near Crossroads.

The second killing happened after shots were fired at policemen investigating the first death. The shots were fired about 1055am and police took cover. Police moved to counter an expected attack and further shots were heard, but it was not known whether they were fired by police or whether anyone was wounded.

ANC 'Insurgent' Killed Near Germiston

MB251135 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1109 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 25, SAPA — An ANC insurgent was shot dead by police yesterday morning in Kathlehong, a black township near Germiston, the SAP Public Relations Division in Pretoria said today.

The man, whom police would not name, was killed when he stormed police with a Russian-made handgrenade when they arrived at a house in the township, a police statement said.

Police went to the house as a result of information supplied by black members of the public, the division said.

Terrorist weapons, including AKMS guns, ammunition, and nuts and bolts, which are sometimes fitted to limpet mines as additional schrapnel, were found in the house. Police suspect that the insurgent, and possibly accomplices, were responsible for a terror attack and an attempted attack in Springs recently.

Banks, Standstill Committee Reach Consensus

MB241516 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1513 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 24, SAPA — The major creditor banks and the South African Standstill Co-ordinating Committee [SCC] had reached a "broad consensus of agreement", the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, announced today.

In a statement issued in Cape Town, the minister said Dr Fritz Leutwiler, the mediator, had announced in London last month that a "broad consensus of agreement had been reached." It could now be confirmed, he said, that all outstanding issues had been disposed of at a meeting of the major creditor banks and the SCC which took place in London today.

As a result of the meeting, the Leutwiler proposal would now come into effect on April 1 as envisaged, Mr du Plessis said.

At the time of Dr Leutwiler's announcement in London, he intimated that a small technical group would be formed by the creditor banks to have further discussions with the SCC on the finalisation of the arrangements for the implementation of the proposal.

"Over the past few weeks, extensive negotiations took place between this technical working group of the banks and the SCC and a full meeting of representatives of the major creditor banks and members of the SCC took place in London today.

"It can now be confirmed that all outstanding issues have been disposed of at this meeting, and that the Leutwiler proposal will now come into force on April 1, 1986, as envisaged," Mr du Plessis said.

"In consultation with Dr Leutwiler, the major creditor banks and the SCC have agreed on two important modifications to the proposal of February 20, 1986. "First, it has been agreed to extend the termination date of the interim arrangement from March 31, 1987, as originally agreed, to June 30, 1987.

"The major creditor banks have now agreed to maintain their exposure to South African borrowers at not less than 95 per cent of the present level until the end of June 1987, and South Africa will lift the repayment restrictions on five per cent of the affected debt that has already reached maturity or that will mature up to June 30, 1987.

"Second, it has been agreed that the five per cent in respect of all debt already matured or maturing before April 15, 1986, will now be released in one amount on April 15, 1986.

"In the case of debt maturing between April 15, 1986 and June 30, 1987, the five per cent will be released on the original maturity dates of the relevant debt."

The statement continued: "A meeting between the major creditor banks and South Africa will take place in September 1986 to review progress made up to that time, and a major review of the situation will take place in April next year.

"The South African Reserve Bank has, in the meantime, made the necessary arrangements to provide for any withdrawals of released funds on or after April 15, 1986. It will not be necessary for the bank to acquire any additional foreign exchange for this purpose from the local foreign exchange market.

"It should, furthermore, be pointed out that the lifting of the restriction on the repayment of funds does not necessarily mean that the funds will be withdrawn from South Africa.

"Each South African debtor will, of course, be in a position to negotiate with foreign lenders for a possible voluntary extension of released funds, and potential new borrowers of foreign funds should also now be in a better position to negotiate for new loans."

"In terms of the interim arrangement, indeed, it is required of existing South African borrowers of foreign funds, where existing loan contracts have already matured, to renegotiate their loan arrangement with their foreign creditors and to agree to new conditions in compliance with the agreement.

"Details of the arrangement will be made available to all South African authorised dealers in foreign exchange within the next few days, and existing South African debtors are requested to contact their bankers in this regard as soon as possible.

"The interim arrangement has now been agreed to by South Africa's major creditor banks, and Dr Leutwiler has also submitted the fianal detailed arrangements to the other bank creditors holding smaller claims on South African debtors.

"These smaller bank creditors have been asked to give their support to the implementation of the interim arrangement. Debt due to non-bank creditors will, at this juncture, be treated in a similar way, but further discussions are still taking place in this regard."

"This interim debt arrangement has been negotiated in a relatively short period of time and should be seen as an effort to return normality to south Africa's international financial relations. It is based on a sense of goodwill, mutual faith and understanding for a difficult situation by all parties concerned.

"I should like to express the appreciation of the South African Government for the way in which the arrangement has been concluded and the dedication and acumen of the SCC's negotiating team," Mr du Plessis concluded.

Further on President Botha's Remarks on Sanctions

MB241808 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The state president says if attempts to impose economic sanctions against South Africa encourages violance and revolutionary change, Western leaders would have to rethink their role in this unwarranted campaign. Mr Botha opened the third world congress for Brahman breeders in Johannesburg today.

[Begin video] [Correspondent Jan van Niekerk] Mr Botha said the apparent motivation for foreign economic pressure against South Africa was presented as an attempt to coerce this country into acquiring reformist policies. It was ironic, however, that the uncalled for intervention in the country's domestic affairs came at the very time when we were in the most dramatic phase of fundamental reform.

[Botha] We must therefore see something sinister in both the motivation and the timing of calls for economic sanctions against us, particularly from Western countries. The third irony lies in the possible effect of economic sanctions. Those actions would mainly be detrimental to the underprivileged and the poor, thus mainly, the black community.

[Van Niekerk] Mr Botha said South Africa believed in a democratic system of governmet. We believe in a sovereignty of the law as the basis for the protection of the fundamental rights of individuals and groups.

[Botha] The extent to which these values are upheld in practice in this country is relatively unique in this continent. We dare not and we shall not turn our backs on our centuries-old heritage in this regard to surrender to the forces of leftist revolutionary camps. We are not fooled by the (?pretence) of those who seek our [word indistinct] downfall.

[Van Niekerk] Mr Botha said the extent of our task was starkly illustrated by the situation on the rest of our continent. To the north lies the states of Africa on a continent dying of hunger, disease, an poverty.

[Botha] South Africa wishes to take up its responsibilities here at home [word indistinct] but [word indistinct] we have been caught in the crossfire of the international struggle between the power blocs of the world. The result was that this country has in many areas been deliberately isolated from the rest of Africa, which is unfortunate and unnecessary. [end video]

Botha: Munsieville Residents Not To Be Moved

MB211635 Johannebsurg SAPA in English 1629 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, Mar 21, SAPA — The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, today said established residents of the Munsieville area would not be moved and the area would not extended.

Announcing this in a press statement released in Cape Town, Mr Botha said the building of the proposed K17 road in Munsieville would be financed because it would become a buffer between it and Dan Pienaar.

The buffered zone would further be safeguarded by the erection of safety fences, high-mast lighting and patrolling, the statement said.

Munsieville has been the scene of repeated attacks on blacks from militant whites objecting to the black township hemmed in by white suburbs in Krugersdorp.

Mr Botha's announcement follows a meeting with Mr Leon Wessels (NP [National Party] Krugersdorp) in Tuynhuys yesterday.

According to the statement the state president studied documents and a petition with 11,000 signatures from "inhabitants who are affected by the dispute." He also satisfied himself with the view of the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, with whom the matter was considered before the statement was made.

Heunis Submits Plan for Potchefstroom Development

MB210632 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0625 GMT
21 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Pretoria, March 21, SAPA — The minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, today released the draft guide plan for Potchefstroom which he said laid down guide lines for "the orderly spatial" development of the town.

Mr Heunis said in a statement released in Pretoria that the plan, made available for representations and comments, was compiled by a committee representative of all interested government institutions.

"The importance of Potchefstroom as educational, military and regional service centre is recognised in the draft guide plan and was also accepted by the guide plan committee as a point of departure in the formulation of a development policy for the town," Mr Heunis said.

To develop Potchefstroom to its full potential, he said, the guide plan committee believed the following should service as a guide line:

—Fragmentation of business development must be avoided;
—Future extension and development must be planned in such a way as to make provision for employment opportunities;
—Provision must also be made for the fast growing housing needs, especially those of the black and colored population; and
—Open spaces, where the need for outdoor recreation could be met, must be timely identified and protected against encroachment by urban development.

Embassy Confirms Nonattendance at London Talks

MB201311 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1257 GMT
20 Mar 86

[Text] London, March 20, SAPA — The South African Embassy in London confirmed today that it would not be represented at an international conference on South Africa taking place in England next week — and neither would the government or the National Party.

The banned ANC is reported to have been invited, and the embassy said in a statement that it had been concerned to learn that the organisation might be represented at a conference at which British Government ministers might be present.

"This would be contrary to our understanding of British Government policy on contact with that organisation. We have since learned that no ministers of the British Government will be present," it said.

A Foreign Office spokesman confirmed that there were no plans for ministers to attend.

The conference, on the theme "South Africa in Crisis", has been organised by the government-funded institution, Wilton Park Conferences in West Sussex. A wide range of South African industrialists, academics and politicians have been invited, with representatives from black states and several European governments.

It was reported from Cape Town yesterday that a National Party MP, Dr Stoffel van der Merwe, the party's Transvaal information officer, had also been invited.

Conference organisers are refusing to disclose the identity of participants. "This is an off-the-record conference and no information of any sort will be issued," a spokeswoman said.

It is understood that among the South Africans invited are Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, the former leader of the PFP [Progressive Federal Party], and Dr Alex Boraine, until recently a PFP MP. Representatives of Inkatha, the Soweto Civic Association, the Media Workers Association and the UDF [United Democratic Front] are also expected to attend.

African states on the list include Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Western countries expected to be represented are Australia, Canada, France, West Germany and Britain.

Boraine: Absence 'Short-Sighted'

MB211746 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1740 GMT
21 March 86

[Text] London, March 21, SAPA — Former PFP [Progressive Federal Party] MP Dr Alex Boraine has accused the South African Government of being "desperately short-sighted" for refusing to take part in conference in England to discuss South Africa's future.

The ANC has been invited to the conference, and yesterday the South African Embassy in London confirmed that neither the government nor the National Party would be represented. A wide range of South African businessmen, politicians and representatives of black organisations have been invited, along with delegates from the Front-Line States and some Western Countries.

Dr Boraine, who has arrived in London, was quoted in a report published here today as saying: "I think this is desperately short-sighted. The one thing we vitally need is for the South

African Government to meet its protagonists on neutral territory. This would have afforded a marvellous opportunity."

The conference has been organised by the British Government-funded institution "Wilton Park Conferences" in West Sussex.

A National Party MP, Dr Stoffel van der Merwe, was reported to have accepted an invitation but apparently told not to attend after it was learned that the ANC would probably be present. The conference opens on Sunday and runs for three days. Organisers have said it will be behind closed doors and that no information "of any sort" will be disclosed.

Conference Cancelled

MB241219 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0500 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] A London conference, dubbed a trial national convention for South Africa, has been canceled because of the nonparticipation of some of those who were expected.

Conference director Geoffrey Denton said last night that despite the setback, informal discussions are to continue among those present. He had earlier stressed the planned conference that was due to open last night was not intended to be a negotiating forum or a trial national convention.

HNP Head Demands Farmer Debt, Interest Moratorium

MB191531 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1510 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 19, SAPA — The HNP [Reformed National Party] leader, Mr Jaap Marais, today called for an immediate debt and interest moratorium in the agricultural sector, applicable to the whole of the summer rainfall area.

In a statement, Mr Marais said more and more farmers were losing their farms after the unprecedented rise in farm debts which resulted from successive droughts and low government-fixed produce prices.

If further bankruptcies were not prevented, Mr Marais said, land prices would fall so low that the "security value" of the greater part of South Africa's farm lands would be threatened. This would drive thousands of other farmers from the land.

The principle should now be accepted that the entire country — and not only the nation's 10,000 farmers — should share the burden of South Africa's unpredictable climate, he said.

The agricultural debt burden of R10 billion affected by a standstill would have to be repaid over a long period through a general levy on all agricultural produce, to be collected at trade level. This would prevent the financial collapse of the country districts of Transvaal, the Free State, and parts of Natal and the Cape, Mr Marais said.

House of Assembly's 'Own Affairs' Budget Detailed

MB211722 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The own affairs budget for the administration of the House of Assembly published in Cape Town indicates that 4.8 billion rand is needed for the new financial year. Three billion rand has been allocated to education and culture, and 716 million rand to health and welfare. Just under 530 million rand is required for agriculture and water supplies, 271 million rand for local government, housing, and works; and 225 million rand has been allocated for the improvement of conditions of service.

Inflation for February Drops to 18.1 Percent

MB210815 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0802 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 21, SAPA — South Africa's inflation rate dropped 2.6 per cent to stand at 18.1 percent for February, according to figures released in Pretoria today.

A statement by the Central Statistical Service [CSS] said the lower inflation rate of 18.1 per cent, compared with 20.7 per cent for January, was mainly attributed to the fuel price increase which was taken into account in the calculation of the index for February.

"The substantial decrease is, therefore, essentially a technical decline since the calculation of the annual rate of increase in the Consumer Price Index [CPI] for February 1986 is based on a relatively higher basis than was the case for the calculation of the annual rate of increase up to January 1986, the CSS said.

"A similar phenomenon can be expected in respect of the April 1986 index as a result of the increase in sales tax from 10 per cent to 12 per cent which was taken into account in the calculation of the April 1985 consumer price index."

The CPI for all income groups in February stood at 215.8 (base 1980: 100), compared with 213.8 in January, and 102.8 a year ago.

The index for food reached 213.5, down from 214.7 in January, and above the 180.8 for February 1985, while the commodity index rose to 212.9 compared with 211.2 in January and 177.5 in February 1985.

The year-on-year inflation rates by income groups for February are:

— Lower income group: inflation rate of 17.3 per cent (CPI: February 210.4, January 209.3, February 1985, 179.3).

— Middle income group: 18.1 per cent (CPI: February 218.0, January 216.1, February 1985, 184.6).

— Higher income group: 18.2 per cent (CPI: February 216.1, January 213.8, February 1985, 182.8).

'Indefinite' Consumer Boycott Begins in Pretoria

MB241208 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0938 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 24, SAPA — An indefinite consumer boycott by blacks of white-owned shops started in Pretoria today amidst confusion. Conflicting pamphlets regarding the starting date of the boycott and demands of the organisers have been circulated in the townships.

Called by the Pretoria Consumer Boycott Committee (PCBC), it is the second such boycott in recent months to hit retailers. The first, held over the festive season, shook many shops as the base of black buying power was withdrawn.

The Pretoria Consumer Boycott Committee (PCBC) has denounced "bogus" pamphlets distributed in the townships which called for a six-month boycott of work, school and white shops. The pamphlets, purported to have been written by the PCBC, stated that the boycott of white shops, schools and work would start on April 7 and end on September 30.

The pamphlets said no one could leave townships without the permission from "comrades." The boycott would be strictly applied by the "comrades," the pamphlet said. There would be no compromise, only sacrifice, the pamphlet said.

A spokesman for the PCBC said the pamphlets were issued by "oppressive forces posing as comrades" to create confusion in the townships. Our campaigns are planned by the multitudes in the townships and if people are in doubt about any action they should consult their area committees," he said.

The spokesman produced a "genuine" pamphlet which only called for an indefinite boycott of white shops from today.

Reasons for the PCBC's call for a boycott include:

— The failure to remove the security forces from the townships;
— The continued service of police and councillors;
— The refusal to re-instate all workers who had been "unfairly dismissed;"
— The "reluctance" to lower rents; and
— The continued banning of COSAS [Congress of South African Students].

Businessmen 'To Stand Firm'

MB241207 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0749 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 24, SAPA — Pretoria businessmen have decided to stand firm against the planned black boycott of white businesses in the city and emergency plans have been drawn up to man shops and businesses if the planned mass stayaway of workers hits hard.

A spokesman of an ad hoc committee of Pretoria businessmen said a survey had established that the stayaway — if the city's black workers gave in to demands — would inevitably result in confrontation between the city work force and employers.

The spokesman said the committee had advised employers to make it clear to workers that they would face being phased out in favour of unskilled labour if they stayed away. Employers had also been advised to maintain communications with workers to assess developments.

Mr Adriaan Willemse, chairman of the city's Wek en Leef [Work and Live] organisation said the body had a list of nearly 200 people who could step in immediately and take over the work of black stayaway workers.

"It doesn't matter what sort of work, whether it be pick and shovel work, packing tins on shop shelves or whatever," he said.

Mr Johan Mulder, chairman of the city's Afrikaanse Sakekamer [Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce], said a plan of action had been evolved to deal with the boycott, scheduled to start on April 1.

Company To Supply Workers

MB211300 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1102 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 21, SAPA — A Pretoria man plans to organise an "instant staff" to help city companies hit by strikes.

Mr Pieter Vermaak said he first thought of the idea during the current wave of strikes that have hit Pretoria firms, including Noristan.

"I can provide an instant force drawn from white, coloured and Indian unemployed workers to help out factories or companies where regular staff have downed tools."

He said he would run his "strike force" on a commission basis for providing the companies with temporary staff, while the stand-in workers would also be paid. Mr Vermaak said he already had a pool of about 60 workers he could draw on, and he hoped to provide employees with basic skills — who could receive further training from the companies they were helping out — as well as specialised occupations, such as drivers. He would check that all members of the "strike force" were reliable.

Port Elizabeth Warned on Beaches, Langa

MB220659 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0644 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, March 22, SAPA — A stern warning has been given that Port Elizabeth [PE] City Council cannot continue to practice apartheid and retain the support of major foreign and South African companies.

The warning comes from the Executive Council of the Midland Chamber of Industries.

In a statement released today, it said the executive had resolved to "bring to the notice of the city council — and the people of PE — the grave results that are flowing out of the inability of the PE City Council to recognise what it has to do in order to ensure that multinational companies can continue to operate in this city.

"The chamber recognises that political issues are extremely sensitive and generate emotions, but the hard facts of reality are that PE cannot hope to retain the support of foreign and large South African company investment in the city, and practice apartheid. The council should recognise this and try and ease the pressure on these companies.

"The city of Port Elizabeth has positively faced up to today's reality in many areas, such as the opening of the CBD [Central Business District] to all race groups. In addition, there is no longer any discrimination in factories, and cinemas are open to all race groups.

"Against this background, it is difficult to understand the lack of courage by certain councillors to vote for the opening of all the beaches under its jurisdiction.

"To ensure the viability of industry, and the livelihood of its citizens, the executive committee appeals to all city councillors to support councillor Ivan Krige's motion that all the beaches of Port Elizabeth be opened to all races from July 1.

"If the city council is anxious about such issues as the potential of overcrowding in the peak summer period, then it ought to invite any interested group or organization to put forward recommendations in this regard, but it should accept that from July 1 the beaches be open to all.

"A second area of immediate concern is the potential for further unrest in the eastern Cape if the squatters from the Langa township were to be forcibly evicted from their homes.

"In the current climate of trying to make reform work it would be wise for officials to accept that out of necessity, all existing urban areas such as Langa should be recognised and retained.

"With emotions running very high on the Langa issue, the Executive Council strongly appeals to the authorities to explore a new deal for the Langa residents within the existing boundaries of their suburb."

KaNgwane To Take Over Administration Functions

MB191834 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1830 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 19, SAPA — The KaNgwane government is to take over all development, administration and township management functions in its territory from South Africa as soon as possible after April 1, it was announced here today.

Provision is to be made for the continuation of specific services by means of "appropriate agreements".

A joint statement released by the ministers of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, and of education and development aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, and the chief minister of Kangwane, Mr E.J. Mabuza, said "constructive" discussions had taken place in the city today between representatives of the South African Government and the KaNgwane cabinet on "various issues of common concern".

In addition to the transfer of functions, it was agreed that KaNgwane would proceed with legislation to provide for the establishment of local authorities to administer its towns.

In the meantime the present town councils would be fully involved in the planning, development and administration of their towns. A number of measures had been agreed on to meet the "urgent and specific" needs of the towns of KaNyamazane and Matsulu.

In KaNyamazane, these included the extension of electricity reticulation to a further 2,000 houses over the next two years and funding of self-building schemes.

In Matsulu the improvement of the water supply, additional funding of self-building loans, expansion of the electricity reticulation system and the upgrading of the access road.

It was also agreed that technical assistance would be rendered by the Department of Development Aid in collaboration with the government of KaNgwane to assist people to erect their own homes.

KaNgwane Chief Minister Mabuza Interviewed

MB201012 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 19 Mar 86 p 6

[By Hellouise Truswell]

[Text] Chief Minister of KaNgwane, Nganani Enos John Mabuza, a man who travels widely and has met both Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan, does not indulge in verbal overkill.

Rather, the chill factor of what he says is generated by quietly enunciated verities. Without making an inventory of apartheid's calamitous potential, he underscores with relentless intensity the level of anger and frustration that runs like a serpent through the black community.

Mabuza and a 21-man delegation recently met the ANC in Lusaka. As chairman of the Inyandza National Movement, he was given a mandate to meet the leadership of the ANC. Pivotal to the discussions were the current unrest situation and the future of this country.

The ANC violently rejects homeland leaders, whom they perceive as SA government puppets. Why, I ask Mabuza, did the ANC talk to him for three days? What was the common ground that made him acceptable?

"You would have to ask them," he says. "But the common ground is a nonracial, democratic society in SA. However, we remain committed to peaceful change. The ANC remains committed to the arms struggle until such time as government releases political prisoners, unbans political organisations, dismantles apartheid and negotiates with credible leaders in the country."

What has he done to change ANC entrenched perceptions and attitudes towards homeland leaders?

Mabuza: "I think they recognise we are striving for a democratic, nonracial society within the legal precincts. They accept our bona fides in that regard. We have expressed our belief that homelands are not a political solution for our country."

Then why does Mabuza align himself with the homeland system which he rejects? At this stage he is going along with it, he affirms. "But I am sure conditions will arise which may require that I resign or that I step down."

He does not hesitate to air his view on homelands. "The homelands were not created on the basis of a decision by the majorityof blacks in this country. Government designed the plan and all we had to do was fit into the plan, be it in pendular or triangular or sectional form. Blacks didn't decide on it.

"If the Indian Council or the Coloured Representative Council could be dismantled, the homelands can also be dismantled. We should look for a new dispensation which would be acceptable to the majority of blacks. Homelands are not."

Currently he sees himself as working towards an objective in the homelands. What is it?

"Look, we have a train here. It's careening to an abyss, probably driven by some lunatic who doesn't care what happens when the train falls into such an abyss. If one is capable of applying brakes and stopping or reversing it...I think that is my duty in the homelands juction called KaNgwane.

"At least I can bring to a halt to KaNgwane becoming an independant state, which is the logical conclusion of the policy and thereby de-nationalising 1-million SA-born Swazis. I have a role to play in seeing that the policy doesn't achieve its objectives."

Is he a member of the ANC? He laughs: "The ANC is not a legal organisation in SA. Categorically, I am not a member of the ANC. I am a member and leader of my Inyandza National Movement."

"But what I would like to say is that it appears as if government and many of the whites are oblivious of the obvious support of the ANC in the country. Nobody can quantify support because no one can say I am a paid-up member of the ANC. From my assessment of the situation and in my own territory, and especially among the young people there is overwhelming support for the ANC."

I ask him whether Nelson Mandela has become a token figurehead who is irrelevant in current black politics. "He was relevant when he was imprisoned and I believe he is still relevant today. If he would be irrelevant that is a question that would be decided by his supporters in an open political marketplace.

"I have reason to assume he is still very relevant until the contrary is proved. The contrary will be proved by his leadership if he were to be released and the relationship of that leadership with the masses."

What is the view of Mabuza — an honours psychology graduate who is the author of several text books — on the subject of violence? "Violence can only be an option by the people if they are forced into it."

What are regarded as legitimate forces to allow violence to be an option? "If the people were driven to a state where all options for peaceful opposition to the policies of the country were unavailable, especially the denial of political rights and the relegation of blacks to socio-economic subserviency. If the state brought all its might to ensure and perpetuate that..."

How does he see the present situation? "There are legitimate grievances in the townships to be addressed. Beyond that there are the aspirations of blacks to elect their own leaders to represent them in the highest political institutions of the country."

How does he feel about the latest round of reform proposals? "I think here it is a question of whether apartheid is being dismantled or reformed."

Blacks want to see dismantling of apartheid. For example, says Mabuza: "If passes are going to be removed and you are going to have a common identity book, it won't work as long as the Population Registration Act is on the statute book.

"Whites will have serial numbers which immediately declare them white. I will have a different serial number and the computer will say black. Go and look for him where he stays. As the state president has said, apartheid is outmoded. It should be dismantled, not reformed. Let's remove these outmoded structures. That will be real reform."

Is he optimistic about concrete changes? "I have heard about it. My people have heard about it. But they haven't experienced it. They haven't felt it. There is a vast difference between hearing and feeling and experiencing ..."

The rejection of educational disciplines for what they are worth at the moment must have an enormously deleterious effect on the future of youth. What is his view of this?

"Most of these youngsters openly support the ANC. And the ANC is a banned organisation. Their leaders are in exile. Their leaders are in prison. Now how do you expect thousands if not millions of young people who believe in leaders who are in prison or in exile, to have appropriate direction in the absence of those leaders?

"I think this should drive sense into the minds of government to release political prisoners unconditionally and to unban the ANC. I have no doubt that if these leaders come to the country and are invited to the conference table, there will be co-ordinated action and reaction by the young people."

The goal, he stresses, is a non-racial, democratic society. Is it also a [illegible] the situation?

"Definitely. About that there is no hesitation in my mind. I must say here that I'm not in favour of a federal system, and I believe that most of our people aren't, either."

What about participating in the new statutory body suggested in Parliament? "The blacks have said they are prepared to negotiate. But before they do so they would like to see political prisoners released. And they would like to see political organisations unbanned.

"Personally, I believe that in spite of whatever strategies they might have used, these political prisoners were imprisoned because of what I believe in: a democratic country where every South African regardless of race, colour and creed will have the right to vote for his or her leaders. They believe in that. My view personally is that it would be sacrilege, political sacrilege on my part, to negotiate behind their backs ..."

He refuses to divulge any matters which were discussed with the ANC because it is a banned organisation and may not be quoted. What he is prepared to say is that one important factor emerged: the necessity of unity amongst blacks especially, but also of all the people of this country in opposing apartheid.

"I think we should join forces. The message is loud and clear that in doing so there are no touchables and untouchables. If we all join forces we can bring about the correct pressure to bear upon government to drive the message home. Then we have a chance of averting disaster in the country."

When it comes to pressure, how does he see the role of trade unions?

"I think they will use their worker power quite efficiently in the future. But they can't elect a leader to go to Parliament to speak about their rights. That is why trade unions have no option but to practice politics on the factory floor and to use their muscle there to bargain for politcal rights."

There are no easy solutions, he admits. But time is short and and government needs to be bold, especially in overcoming white attitudes.

Mabuza: "Frankly, I think the problem in our country is that while many whites want to see peaceful change, they are very suspicious. I understand that suspicion and mistrust and I sympathise with them because I think they know that blacks have been under the boot of oppression for many generations.

"There is that fear that if blacks are treated as equals, the boot will be on the other foot and they will find themselves under it. I'm presently aware of whites who are highly suspicious of my visits to Lusaka in the interests of my country and my people. My heart bleeds when I note this suspicion and mistrust.

"I become very worried about the future of the country. Since I became chief minister I have tried to build bridges. We can only have hope in this country if whites will meet us as brothers and sisters on an equal basis and trust us. Remove suspicion and fears."

Vaal Townships 'Tense' as Death Threats Reported

MB251144 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1057 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Johannesburg, March 25, SAPA — Vaal Triangle townships were tense today and many people are reported to have stayed away from work after "necklace" threats by youths last night.

Residents said because of "threats of necklaces or burning through tyres" which spread through the townships of Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Zamdela, Bophelong, Evaton and Refengkgotso, many people believed it was better to stay at home.

Today in all the townships there were few taxis and buses. Residents believed taxi operators were threatened not to ferry people to work.

One resident said: "The townships are tense at the moment, buses have been withdrawn, taxis are not operating, everything seems to be at a standstill. I think following yesterday's aborted work stayaway, some people believe it is better to enforce it and because of threats of burning through tyres, people are afraid to go to work.

"There were ugly scenes yesterday when buses dropped people outside the townships. As people were walking home, some were shown tyres by youths who said they would be burned... if they went to work today."

Sources in Sebokeng said the situation was volatile and they reckoned that fewer people had ventured to work today than yesterday.

The Vaal Civic Association estimated yesterday's stayaway had been supported by 50 per cent of workers in Sebokeng. A spokesman for the Vaal Transport Corporation said buses had been withdrawn from Sebokeng at 11am yesterday and had operated only to the perimeter during the afternoon rush hour.

1,500 Van Dyks Drift Miners Stage Work Stoppage

MB241307 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1236 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 24, SAPA — Some 1500 black underground workers at the Van Dyks Drift colliery near Witbank had staged a "de-facto work stoppage" by refusing to follow laid-down mine entry and exit procedures, the colliery said in a statement in Johannesburg today.

The procedures involved clocking-in immediately prior to entering the mine via the personnel shaft, and clocking-out immediately upon return to surface.

Mr Nilo Zolezzi, managing director of Witbank colliery, the holding company of Van Dyks Drift, said the problem arose last week when the "crush" — or entry and exit control point — was moved from the mines hostel to a new personnel shaft on the property.

"It is normal procedure to keep the crush within a shaft complex, and therefore to keep moving it as new personnel shafts are commissioned — but our workers want it moved back to the hostel before they go back to work. They have given no explanation as to why they want it moved back, nor why they object to clocking-in at the shaft."

Mr Zolezzi said that the mines and works act imposed a "clear obligation" on management to ensure that no unauthorised person entered the mine, and that no unauthorised person remained underground after the conclusion of each shift. It was for this reason that entry and exit control points were established in the immediate vicinity of personnel shafts.

He said the mine had telexed the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) twice in an effort to resolve the situation.

"We are surprised that we have had no response to our telexes since NUM is supposed to be committed to improving safety on mines, and correct clocking-in procedures are fundamental to underground safety."

Van Dyks Drift has obtained a court interdict compelling the workers to comply with established entry and exit control procedures "thus restraining them from entering the mine without clocking-in at the shaft." said the statement.

"The stoppage has caused loss of earning to the workers and loss of production for three days," said Mr Zolezzi said in the statement.

Medunsa Black Students on 'Mass Stayaway'

MB241155 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1009 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 24, SAPA — Black students at the Medical University of South Africa (Medunsa) have embarked on a mass stayaway after last week's Supreme Court decision ordering the university to reinstate two white undergraduates whose registrations were cancelled last month.

This was confirmed by a Medunsa spokesman, who added that the two white students, Mr Pieter Kruger and Mr Darryl Wilke, had arrived on the campus today to resume their studies.

"But the situation is very fluid right now. With virtually all our black students boycotting classes, it a question of whether the staff will agree to teach only two students," the spokesman said.

Mr Kruger and Mr Wilke, who both hold B.Sc "pre- med" degrees, were accepted as third-year medical students at Medunsa in January.

After a boycott by students who said they were keeping out "deserving blacks," they were asked to leave the university and their tuition fees and other fees were returned to them by the rector, Professor L.T. Taljaard.

Giving judgment in an urgent application in the Pretoria Supreme Court last week, Mr Justice A. J. Heyns found the university had exceeded its authority in requesting Mr Kruger and Mr Wilke to leave and ordered their immediate reinstatement.

The judge found Medunsa, in making their decision to expel the two, had bowed to "mass thuggery" on the part of black students. Prof. Taljaard was "in urgent conference" today and could not be reached for comment.

2d Bail Application for Treason Trialists Refused

MB241159 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1102 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Delmas, March 24, SAPA — A second application for bail on behalf of the 22 men charged with treason, subversion, incitement to murder and furthering the aims of banned organisations, was refused on Friday.

The reason given was that the situation in the country had not changed sufficiently for bail to be granted.

The men, leaders of the United Democratic Front [UDF], the Vaal Civic Association, the Azanian Peoples Organisation and the Azanian Youth Unity were earlier refused bail.

Among the 22 are UDF leaders Mr "Terror" Lekota, Mr Popo Molefe and Mr Moss Chikane.

Alleged Police Station Bomber's Sister Released

MB201413 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1407 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 20, SAPA — Security police have released Miss Debbie Sparg, sister of alleged police station bomber Miss Marion Sparg. This was confirmed by police headquarters in Pretoria today.

Miss Debbie Sparg was being held in terms of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act. She was detained soon after her sister Marion was detained by security police in connection with explosions at three police stations — Cambridge in East London, Hillbrow and John Vorster Square.

Security police are also holding a man in connection with the bombings. He has been identified as Mr Stephen Marais. Mr Marais was detained in Aliwal North soon after the hillbrow explosion on March 7. No details of Mr Marias have been released.

It is not yet known when Miss Merion Sparg and Mr Marais will appear in court in connection with the bombings.

Two Injured in Witwatersrand University Protest

MB210530 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2212 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 21, SAPA — A commemoration of the Sharpeville shooting held at the University of the Witwatersrand today erupted into violence with two people being assaulted by students.

The commemoration, organised by the Students Action Committee, an affiliate of the United Democratic Front, began with a "peoples' trial" when a young black woman was accused of being a police informer. The woman, who claimed to be studying German, was found to have a forged student card. A member of the audience claimed he had seen her in Alexandra during the arrest of a photographer, and the trial began.

There was no cross-examination of the "prosecutions" witness, although the woman was allowed to defend herself amid much heckling.

Organisers of the "trial" lost control of the situation and the crowd of 300 to 400 surged forward. The woman was saved by the university's security staff who pushed through the crowd and carried the woman to the safety of the SRC [Student Representative Council] building. Although relatively uninjured, the woman was reported to have suffered a few blows.

Not so lucky was Mr Derek Hadley, who was also attacked. Mr Hadley, watching the crowd running on campus, shouted something to the effect that "the police at Sharpeville were merely defending themselves."

Immediately the front runners cornered Mr Hadley. About 20 people attacked him with boots, fists and sticks. University security guards standing nearby made no attempt to protect him. When the crowd backed off, Mr Hadley was carried away.

13 Released by Transkei Security Police

MB211252 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Thirteen people, including the son of the Transkeian minister of agriculture, have been released by Transkei security police. Their detention followed an explosion in a car at Imbobo in February. The head of the Transkei security police, General Leonard Xawe, has confirmed that 11 people from the (Kakadu)-Lady Frere district, together with Mabandla Boyi and Mbonga Koyana, have been released.

Mr Boyi, the son of Minister E.Z. Boyi, and Mr Koyana, were traveling in the car at the time of the blast. An unidentified man was killed in the blast. Police say he was carrying the bag which contained the bomb.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 24 Mar

MB241717 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1714 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 24, SAPA — The unrest situation report to 7pm from the SAP Public Relations Directorate in Pretoria follows:

"East Rand: A black male was injured when a mob of blacks stoned a bus at Ratanda near Heidelburg. And in the same area a black male above 18 was fatally wounded by the SAP during a stone throwing attack at a passenger bus.

"Northern Transvaal: At Mamelodi near Pretoria two private vehicles were set alight by arsonists.

"West Rand: A black male was wounded and arrested during an attack by stone throwers on a SAP vehicle in Sebokeng.

"Another black male was arrested in a petrol bomb attack on a private vehicle near Krugersdorp. A white female was slightly injured in a stone throwing attack on a private vehicle in Krugersdorp.

"Soweto (Jhb) [Johannesburg]: A black male and a black woman were arrested on charges of attempted murder after a black man was set alight with a tyre around his neck. The victim of this attack sustained serious injuries.

"Natal: Three black males have been arrested at Ferndale near Pietermaritzburg after an illegal gathering."

Ends report.

Early 25 Mar

MB250747 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0721 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, Mar 25, SAPA — A man was shot dead in Walmer in the eastern province last night after he and another man were seen inside a bottle store, police said today. Petrol bombs and a hammer were found on the dead man. The other man escaped, the Public Relations Division of the SAP said in their unrest report for last night and early this morning.

In other incidents of unrest in Walmer and Kwazakele, also in the eastern province, police vehicles were slightly damaged when petrol bombs were thrown at them.

A post office in Zwide near Port Elizabeth was badly damaged by petrol bombs by a mob who were dispersed by police using shotgun fire last night.

In another incident a bottle store was also badly damaged by fire and police used birdshot to disperse a crowd who barricaded a road. The home of a councillor was petrol bombed and an electricity transformer was extensively damaged by a petrol bomb. In all the incidents, no injuries were reported.

Other unrest incidents included:

— At the Bonteheuwel, a coloured residential area in the western province, the home of a policeman was petrol bombed.

— At Atteridgeville near Pretoria, a private home was damaged by petrol bombs.

— A vehicle of a construction company was set alight and destroyed in Soweto near Johannesburg.

— Three men who were setting alight a vehicle were arrested at the Vosloorus black residential area near Springs.

— A man was arrested when a police vehicle was stoned in Edendale township near Pietermaritzburg.

— A crowd was dispersed with teargas when they gathered illegally at Dukathole near Aliwal North.

Commentary Condemns Schlemmer Arson Attack

MB250718 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The attacks of arson at the home and office of Professor Lawrence Schlemmer in Durban, causing widespread damage and the loss of irreplaceable research material, provide a typical example of the methods of political radicals for whom the peaceful negotiation of South Africa's future is to be prevented at all costs.

Their onslaught is against democracy itself. South Africans who are committed to democracy and its techniques of negotiation and compromise dare not let them succeed.

The attacks were evidently aimed against Professor Schlemmer himself. He has played a leading role in preparations for the Natal-KwaZulu indaba, which opens in the Durban city hall next week to consider a new power structure for the region. He also did much of the research on the proposals for joint administration which were recently presented to the government.

The arson was an obvious intimidatory tactic to disrupt the indaba — a by now familiar tactic used against leaders of all groups who seek peaceful solutions on the basis of consensus and power sharing.

If there was any doubt about the purpose, it is removed by the words "no indaba" painted on the professor's office door at the university. Professor Schlemmer has presumably been a thorn in the flesh of the radicals for some time. He has worked closely with Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, who has been outspoken in his rejection of violence to achieve political aims.

As an internationally respected academic and researcher Professor Schlemmer has also published research findings which have been anathema to those engaged in the politics of violence, such as the widely publicised finding that 75 per cent of black South African factory workers are opposed to disvestment, and that more than two-thirds of the country's blacks favour political change through negotiation rather than violence.

However valid the empirical evidence for such findings, they have marked him as an enemy of political radicalism.

In the black areas arson is only one of the intimidatory practices which have been perfected in keeping the unrest smouldering during the past eighteen months.

Equally well known, and widely feared by ordinary people, are the barbarous necklace murders, the wanton destruction of property, and the threats by gangs of youths against people who show reluctance in participating in mass demonstrations of violence and protest.

It is encouraging that in the Durban affairs, those engaged in an attempt to resolve matters of common interest around a conference table have given notice that they will not be put off by intimidation. It is just another obstacle that will have to be overcome by moderate leaders of all communities in South Africa who realise that a peaceful future depends on negotiated settlements.

Radio Criticizes Those Ignoring RSA's Reforms

MB240659 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Station commentary: "Speaking Out on Reform"]

[Text] In London Last week Dr Piet Koornhof, chairman of the president's council, remarked on a phenomenon which has the potential for causing far more damage to democratic aspirations in South Africa than is generally perceived. It is the submissive attitude, of governments and people of authority in the community, to the propagandist smokescreen erected by the political radicals and violent persuaders in South African society. While knowing better, they find it expedient to remain silent or even to join the chorus in spreading disinformation about reform in the country.

Although his message has a wider application, Dr Koornhof was addressing himself specifically to the West. It was irony with a vengeance, he said, that the indignation of the world community should have risen in direct proportion to the broadening of demcoracy and the removal of discrimination in South Africa. The West had had no qualms about maintaining normal relations in all spheres before the reform programme was launched, yet it now deemed it expedient to come to terms with leaders like Oliver Tambo.

Far from promoting peaceful reform, however, the new expediency is having the opposite effects, as Dr Koornhof said. It is encouraging and prolonging violence and discouraging moderate blacks from negotiating with the government. What is more, the confidence of the ordinary white South African in the justice and decency of the Western world has been badly damaged. And that as Dr Chester Crocker pointed out, speaking in Washington on the same day, has a further consequence. White South Africans would resist reform for as long as they felt threatened, he told Congress.

It is an undeniable fact that among whites there is strongly growing resentment against those who purvey, or silently acquiesce in, the campaign of lies and distortions about reform in South Africa. They are well aware that in the past five years and more there have been fundamental and wide-ranging changes in national life.

They know that there are few if any other countries in the world that have an equal record of improving socio-economic conditions and opportunities, and increasing democratic channels, for their peoples during this period. They are not impressed by nonsensical charges that nothing has changed except for the worse or by the accompanying threats.

There are, of course, among respected community leaders, those who are prepared to acknowledge this and take their stand on the side of genuine peaceful reform. Mr Harry Oppenheimer has referred to the very important reform program that has been initiated by the government, and to the courage shown by the state president. For this Mr Botha surely deserves credit, says Mr Oppenheimer, and adds: But he certainly does not get it. No past leader in South Africa has been subjected to such sustained, virulent, orchestrated attacks. And what is more, it must have seemed to him that these attacks were mounted by the very people for whose benefit he had put his political future at risk.

Too few, however, among those who are fully acquainted with the truth about reform in South Africa, are willing to speak out fearlessly. Their submissiveness is a greater danger to the democratic ideals they espouse than they realize.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB240740 [Editorial Report]

Soweto Power Struggle

Johannesburg *SUNDAY TIMES* in English on 23 March reports on page 1 of its "extra" section that "a power struggle between the UDF [United Democratic Front] and AZAPO [Azanian People's Organization] is believed to be behind the gang warfare which erupted in Soweto this week — leaving at least eight dead in a spate of horrific killings. Now peace talks are going on between the warring factions. Most of the victims were stoned or burned to death in grisly killings." "According to sources in Soweto yesterday, the battle for political supremacy among rival contenders has played a big role in the violence. AZAPO is said to be making a determined bid to boost its credibility among the black community" before the Soweto anniversary protests. "The UDF — allegedly with ANC prompting — and Chief Buthelezi's Inkatha movement are other main groupings vying for black allegiance in the townships."

Gerrymandering the CP

"An expected new delimitation of white constituencies next year could ensure that the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] remains the official opposition in the Assembly after the next election — in spite of the growth of the rightwing conservative Party/HNP [Reformed National Party] coalition," the paper reports on page 2 of the regular first section. "Sweeping changes to the present system will have to be made to keep pace with population movements and urbanization." This will likely set off a conflict between the various white parties. Blacks will not be affected at all except to highlight that whites intend to hold further elections without black representation. According to population changes, the Transvaal should receive another 11 seats while the Cape will lose 9 and the Orange Free State and Natal 1 each. "It is suggested that instead of taking away seats from other provinces, the Government might also decide to abolish the system of eight indirectly elected MPs and give Transvaal eight more elected MPs." In the past, boundaries have been drawn to "unload" the rural seats, giving more representation for fewer people, because these seats traditionally went to the National Party. Most of these constituencies, however, are now CP strongholds.

Tension in Krugersdorp

On the same page, Max du Preez and Hilton Hamann report that "Krugersdorp, on the West Rand, is rapidly acquiring the unenviable reputation as the town which symbolises racially polarised South Africa. Yet, if its volatile mix of white fear and black anger can be resolved peacefully, many believe it could instead become a symbol of hope for the rest of the country. For the moment, though, the signs are not promising." White residents of the town of Dan Pienaarville had asked that the black township of Munsieville, located close by, be moved. Instead, the president decided to separate the two with a superhighway, security fencing, floodlights and patrols, dubbed the "Berlin wall." A CP councillor compared this with a concentration camp at Dachau and said the president " 'is going to treat these people like animals,' " saying there was much better ground in the location where whites wanted the blacks to be moved. A Krugersdorp MP said there were both whites and blacks who wanted " 'to cure the situation with violence. The temperature is running very, very high and I hope and pray we will be able to cool it down.' "

Outraged Artists

"Top South African artists are calling for a boycott of the formal opening of a new multi-million rand provincial theatre complex — because President P.W. Botha has been asked to open it," the paper reports on page 5. " 'It will alienate all black people who have anything to do with theater,' " said a potter who made a mural for the new Natal Playhouse. Another artist called the invitation a " 'disaster.' " " 'We need reconciliation. And, in my eyes, Mr Botha does not stand for reconciliation. Since he introduced the new constitution, there hasn't been a day's peace. People will see the invitation as yet another act of provocation.' "

Mixed Amanzimtoti Beaches

The paper reports on the same page that reservations for Easter holidays at Amanzimtoti are down 50 percent because of the town council's decision to open the beaches to all races and owners of holiday accomodation in the town are angry. Some blame the council for taking the lead when other neighboring, competing resorts retained closed beaches — and a boom in bookings. The town clerk said the decision had not been made lightly. He said it was naive not to think that the other resorts would be eventually opened and that " 'those who jump in the water first will be the first to dry.' "

Cataclysm Not Inevitable

In an editorial on page 30, the paper says that the Sharpeville events 25 years ago signified a new era in South Africa which the government failed to recognise and respond to, proceeding "mulishly with the folly of trying to make apartheid work." This began a long chain of violence events. Although the reform program is fine as far as it goes, "the great leap forward, a clear vision of an entirely new society — the only thing which, at this stage, can regain the initiative for President Botha's government — is still lacking. One has a sense that our rulers, while earnestly committed to change, have not yet defined their bottom line and that they have yet to squarely address the historic forces which are abroad in our land." While black anger mounts, conflict seems unavoidable. Yet "sensible South Africans refuse to accept the inevitability of a cataciysmic future." Instead "they prefer to confront the ultimate, cosmic question — head on — before it is too late."

Students Cautioned

In a second editorial on the same page, the paper says that universities should be places where students want to have contact with black movements. However, it was ironic that students should shout down the UNITA representatives at Witwatersrand University and that a gathering on that campus to mark the Sharpeville anniversary should "threaten to degenerate into a township-style lynching party." "In the intellectual ferment necessarily taking place over reform and black advancement, students should beware of the mobs and the yobs. They serve only the cause of chaos, not objectivity."

Unifying Education

An article by Stuart Saunders, vice-chancellor of the University of Cape Town, on the same page says that without doubt, educational problems are one of the root causes for black frustration. He notes the many different educational authorities and says "the simple fact of the matter is that multiple departments of education at that level are costly and inefficient," and South Africa cannot afford them. "As long as there are multiple departments based on race there will be dissatisfaction and unhappiness" because "it is another form of apartheid. Separate cannot be equal." He estimates, however, that it will take two generations to achieve a truly equal educational system in the country. However, "South Africans need to believe that everything possible is being done to ensure that they reach that point of equal provision of education as soon as possible, and they will only live with the inevitable long time-lag period if they believe just that."

Police Behavior

On page 30 of the *SUNDAY TIMES*, Martie Meiring writes that one of the most disconerting things about the present situation is the charge that the police are "intimidating and acting as an agent provocateur," a view that is "very real and very sinister." The question of who the enemy is is a real one and at this point township residents believe the police is the enemy. Black parents who attempt to communicate their complaints to police fear arrest, because some arrests have been made. Many believe the police and the councils are allied against the community and these councils have been discredited. Meiring suggests an obmudsman as "the most logical answer to the appalling breakdown of confidence between the black communities and the security forces. Such an agent would certainly eliminate the present feeling that the 'higher' ranks in the security forces are being kept ignorant of the 'real' facts in the townships." Moderates want to be associated with the aspirations of the people and want a decisive say in the running of the township. They will not soon disassociate themselves from the strikes and stayaways. The police are in "a singular position to communicate" with the black communities. If they don't, it will suit the South African Communists just fine.

Verdict on the Budget

Cees Bruggemans writes on page 31 that Economics Minister Barend du Plessis is "in the unenviable position of being entrusted with the robes of an office that retains its traditional awe, without truly having been granted the power that should go with it." The Economics Ministry in South Africa, unlike any First World country, is ranked as a junior ministry, in part because the economy is expected to run itself. He notes, however, that the government will be judged not just on how well it arrives at a socio-political solution to the country's problems but also how well it runs the economy. He notes the country's lack of growth in the last five years and the rise of inflation. If Du Plessis actually holds to his budget targets, he must be commended. However, "the entire budget, by sidestepping any real hard decisions, appears to be one more preparatory step towards a political event, be it a referendum or general election," after which new taxes and spending may be implemented.

Businessmen on Budget

On page 1 of the *BUSINESS TIMES*, the paper carries a survey of chief executives of 70 of the country's biggest firms showing that "big business applauds this week's budget and thinks it will stimulate the economy — but several economists disagree." More than 80 percent of the businessmen described the budget as good to excellent and 87 percent thought it was stimulatory, compared to 51 percent who praised the budget last year. The finance minister also improved his rating from 29 percent approval to 58 percent. "The executives said tax concessions and increased social spending were the best features of the budget. They also applauded stimulation, the containment of state spending and the introduction of money-supply targets. Some criticised the bread subsidy cut and expressed disbelief about Mr du Plessis's numbers." Economists, however, questioned whether the budget would be stimulative. They also questioned that the government could hold to its spending targets. Finance Ministry officials, however, seemed confident that spending overruns could be contained.

No Aid for Wage Earner

"The budget has been applauded for being generous and stimulatory, but few wage and salary earners will be better off this year," Ciaran Ryan reports on page 3 of the *BUSINESS TIMES*. A large part of what is given in the form of the 5 percent tax discount will be taken back with the 7 percent surcharge. "The average wage or salary increase for 1986 of about 10 percent will move taxpayers into higher brackets. In addition, those with perks will be taxed more heavily. The final whammy will be inflation of at least 16 percent this year."

Whites Shoot at Black Schoolchildren

The Johannesburg *SUNDAY STAR* in English for 23 March reports on page 1 that another case of white motorists shooting at blacks has been reported, this time near Schweizer-Reneke in the Transvaal. It is believed that "several" of the four or five whites driving past a group of schoolchildren fired on them. One was wounded in the legs. Police are investigating but so far there have been no arrests.

Background to Pik Botha Reprimand

Political correspondent David Breier reports on page 10 that Verkrampte [ultraconservative] National Party [NP] divisions in the Transvaal wanted President Botha to fire Pik Botha after he said South Africa could have a black president. It is understood that President Botha resisted pressure to fire the foreign minister, who is considered as "indispensible" in handling South Africa's foreign relations and who also has strong support in the most verligte [enlightened] section of the party. But as a SOP to the Verkramptes, the president insisted that Pik Botha sign a letter admitting he was wrong "to compromise the NP by saying there could be a black state president. Had Mr Pik Botha not signed the letter, he would have been dropped from the Cabinet." According to some sources, the article reports, Education Minister F.W. de Klerk was asked to convey the Transvaal Nationalists' demand to the state president, though a spokesman for the NP says De Klerk was not involved. However, the article says, De Klerk's "political fortunes soared after the episode as he is linked with the rightwing of the party."

NP-CP 'Secret' Merger Talks

Another article by David Breier on the same page says "secret talks have started between right-wing Nationalists and the Conservative Party [CP] with the view to a future merger." There is no question of merger as long as President Botha heads the NP as he is seen as the prime mover in present NP policy which offends the CP. The CP is "incompatible" with the more verligte echelons of the NP, especially the minister of foreign affairs and his followers, and the CP would find it "impossible" to be in the same fold with Chris Heunis, minister of constitutional development and planning. The most likely scenario would involve Education Minister de Klerk becoming president and the NP Verligtes leaving the party to form their own mergers, possibly with the Progressive Federal Party. If a Verligte should become president, far fewer Nats would be likely to consider getting together with the Conservatives as this would involve their leaving the party in power — "something they are loathe to do."

Column Questions 'Outdatedness' of Apartheid

"Apartheid is outdated, says a Nationalist sage who goes livid when the possibility of a black state president is mentioned," writes Jon Qwelane in his "Just Jon" column on page 13. A year ago I wondered in this column why I must pay taxes, he says. "I wrote: 'It is no longer news that I pay equal taxes with whites. It does not matter one whit to many whites that while they have a say about the use of their money, mine is not to reason why — just to pay and pay.' 'Can anybody give me just one good reason why I must pay taxes to ensure that a white pensioner rereives R180 a month while my grandmother receives only R79?' 'Why should my taxes ensure massive subsidies for white schoolchilren at the expense of my (black) children?' 'Why must I pay taxes to a Government whose "reform" programme means my total exclusion from Parliament?' 'More bluntly, why should I finance apartheid?' " There have been changes, he writes. "White pensioners now receive R198 a month while my grandmother will have to be happy with the paltry R97 the minister of finance thinks she is worth. Yet my taxes ensure a better payout for whites and better school subsidies for their grandchildren. Apartheid is outdated and that is a reality, says the Nationalist Wise Man. If you believe that, you will believe anything."

Significance of Red Flags Debates

An article by Gary van Staden on page 16 questions the significance of the presence of the hammer and sickle flags at township funerals. Professor Willen Kleynhans of the University of South Africa says " 'there is nothing new in what is happening at township funerals.' " As a young, angry Afrikaner who considered myself downtrodden and oppressed by the British, " 'I remember hating everything they stood for and attending rallies and meetings where the flags of the Boer republics were flown.' 'We politicised funeral after funeral of prominent Afrikaner leaders and we also heard the rumours of how they had been killed by the state.' 'To young blacks the red flag and communist banners represent everything their oppressors fear.' 'It is really a case of historical symbolism rather than any real communist support,' " he says. Professor Carl Noffke of the Rand Afrikaans University says a funeral at Cradock last year and a more recent one in Alexandra were "notable for a high-profile communist presence." Noffke says "it is quite obvious that the Communist Party is using these mass gatherings to put forward and highlight communist views," and that the banners supporting the Soviet Communist Party "should not be taken at anything but face value."

Budget Does Not Address Problems

One of the major factors contributing to unrest is the "high level of unemployment," says Dr Azar Jammine, chief economist of Econometrix, a Johannesburg economic research unit, in an article on page 16. Instead of trying to address the country's most pressing problem "all that this budget is likely to ensure is the continuation of our downward drift towards higher levels of unemployment and social chaos." He says that because of the way the government calculated the inflation rate and the receipts from the General Sales Tax, state spending in real terms has not been reduced. Further, because South Africa's income tax is progressive, those whose salaries have risen to keep up with inflation find themselves paying a higher proportion of their income in taxes, a phenomenon known as fiscal drag. When fiscal drag is aggregated over all the individuals in the economy, the government finds that with a 20 percent inflation rate, as there is at present, its receipts from income tax rise not by 20 percent, but by over 30 percent. It can easily afford to give back to individuals that additional 10 percent it receives without being any worse off than before. Figures show, he says, that people will be worse off in a year's time than they are now. The progressive tax system works in such a way that the only people who derive real benefits from tax cuts are high-income earners and, in some cases, married women. The tax benefits provided the rich by the budget, however, are not likely to generate the incentives needed to introduce a new spirit of entrepreneurship required to redress the country's economic decline.

Black Education Conference

An article by David Breier on page 17 says that at the conference in Durban this weekend of the National Education Crisis Committee [NECC] "black parents, teachers, students and pupils have to take one of the most agonising decisions imaginable" "which will profoundly affect the rest of their lives and the course of political turmoil in South Africa. They will, in effect, have to decide whether to sacrifice the education of the present generation of school pupils to achieve political and educational goals." Thousands of blacks lost a year of education in 1985 and some are said to have missed 3 years of normal classes. "Another lost year could be the point of no return." "Their decision will be as binding as law — and perhaps more so. For millions of blacks will respect the decision more than they respect the laws of a Parliament in which they have no say. The awe with which government members regard the conference indicates the gravity of the occasion." Certain demands they have made of the government to be met by 31 March have not been met — withdrawal of troops from the townships, release of all detained students, pupils, parents and teachers, the unbanning of the Congress of South African Students and other educational demands. The deputy minister of education and development aid, Sam de Beer, has had frequent meetings with the NECC and the Soweto Parents' Crisis Committee and has achieved more than could any other Nationalist, but whether it will be enough will be seen next weekend. "The school boycott issue forms part of a wider pattern of political action. The possibility of national strikes and consumer boycotts exist." "After a rough start, 1986 could get rougher."

Treatment of Political Offenders

"There is evidence that South Africa treats its political offenders more harshly than it treats its common criminals," says Jonathan Faithful in an article on page 17. "Is it less of an offence when a man or a woman commits a crime in pursuit of a political goal than if he or she commits the same crime in a fit of passion or in a desire for enrichment or some other kind of advancement? Thus far, our government has shown very clearly by its actions that it considers the political criminal in a worse light than the so-called common criminal." In most cases, he says, political crimes within reason are committed out of a desire " 'to serve the masses.' " "Within reason," excludes acts of blatant terrorism, acts deliberately intended to harm innocent bystanders. The people who are now being treated as worse than common criminals "may be the people with whom we whites may one day have to negotiate on the running of this country." "I don't say that political offenders convicted of criminal offences by the due process of the law should not be jailed; or even that some of them should not be kept out of circulation while evolution rather than revolution is given a chance. But they should be treated more as prisoners of war than as common criminals," Faithful says. Let's show some of our "civilisation" and "Christianity" by at least "treating our assailants with respect after knocking them down and locking them up."

Alexandra Projects Halted

On page 1 of the "finance" section, *THE SUNDAY STAR* reports that "the unrest in Johannesburg's Alexandra township has caused several housing and roads projects to be put on ice." While it is still hoped they might be undertaken, the firms that have pulled out are unlikely to return while unrest persists. Included is the second phase of a major housing project. The town clerk hopes the "township will have returned to normal in four of five weeks."

Ungovernable South Africa

Peter Sullivan asks on page 3 of the same section how ungovernable South Africa is, answering that "much of South Africa is ungovernable already. More will probably become ungovernable in the future, more's the pity. But the vast majority of the country's financial and industrial regions remain both governable and governed." He notes that Witwatersrand University was ungovernable this week with its disturbances. "Where government also breaks down is in the rural areas and in the townships. It is obvious that some schools have become ungovernable and clear that funerals are no longer governable occasions." He also notes that there is pitiful starvation in the rural areas and that poor people in particular are deprived of fuel, with women having to walk many kilometers for firewood. He decries the government's statement that it had to turn back antipoverty funds because it could not find recipients when "there are so many destitute people in South Africa that R6 million would be sucked up like rain in a drought." If the authorities truly believe that "that is the most ominous indicator of all that this country is becoming ungovernable. People with that depth of ignorance about what is really happening to the majority of people in South Africa could not govern engine revolutions, let alone a country in revolt."

Schwarz on Budget

On page 3 Harry Schwarz, MP for Yeoville, writes that the budget needed new approaches. One might be the concept of "worker and employee share ownership." If workers who were part of the emerging union movement were given shares in the business, might not they be less likely to strike? He believes that more imagination is needed. What is also needed is "a willingness to give up something to make an investment in the future." He suggests that perhaps people need to be taxed more. He hopes that someone will have the courage to give up the palliatives and "come forward with an imaginative plan that will turn this country away from the slippery slopes on which it now finds itself. It does not, however, require only leadership. It requires a willingness of the people, who have to be prepared to give up something for the have-nots."

Crocker's Rights

Neil Lurssen writes from Washington that there is no doubt that Dr Chester Crocker used the word "sham" when referring to South African policy. He knows as he was sitting there when he said it. He points out that South Africa is so badly perceived in the eyes of the world that saying anything nice about the country is a political liability for the Reagan administration. "The important point really is not whether it was polite for Dr Crocker to use words like 'sham' but that it has become politically necessary for the U.S. Government to state in clear and unambiguous terms exactly what it thinks about the deeds of the SA Government. South Africa ought to understand this." Americans do say friendly and sympathetic things not because they are nice guys but because they know whites have to live in the region regardless of what kind of political system evolves. However, when authorities do things like ban moderate black leaders when the talk is about negotiating with black leaders, then they must use such words. "It may not always seem that way, but the U.S. Government is a good friend of South Africa and it acts in a way that old friends do when they see a pal heading for trouble that could be avoided. It speaks out frankly and firmly." Dr Crocker and his colleagues have stuck their necks out for Pretoria often enough. "When they criticise they have earned the right, and there should be no doubts about their choice of words."

New Colored Residential Area

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans of 21 March reports on page 4 that the city council of Midrand is to begin with the development of a new colored residential area alongside Tembisa on the East Rand. The area has already been declared a colored area, says the report, adding that conservative residents of Midrand last year complained at the planned colored area. They claimed that development of the area for coloreds would bring the ANC close to some of the most vulnerable targets in the country. A spokesman has said the new residential area would not be a squatter camp, although it is planned for low-cost housing.

Editorial on UNITA Visitors

An editorial on page 10 of the paper regrets the actions of a group of students at Witwatersrand University who this week demonstrated against the visiting UNITA officials who were to address a meeting on the campus. It says that the occasion was an opportunity for students who are serious about gaining knowledge to learn about Soviet colonialism and the realities of the Angolan bush. "This intolerance of the views of others is, however, not confined to the campus. It is being observed more and more in South African society. By shouting down the views of others, the way is being cleared for killing each other later."

Support for Namibia

An editorial on page 16 of the Pretoria *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans of 20 March says it should never be said South Africa neglects its duties towards South-West Africa. It points to the 500 million rands in the recent budget, allocated for the Windhoek administration, to which should be added the operational contribution by the SADF as well as contributions by the South African tax payer to help keep South-West Africa on its feet. "Granted, one's right to democracy and an orderly existence and protection should not necessarily be measured in terms of money. Nevertheless, the question of how long this country will have to continue making this fiscal contribution to the territory remains valid, not to mention the sacrifice in human lives." Against this background, the editorial adds, sober, thinking people in both countries hope that the most recent initiatives around a possible settlement of the South-West African problem will go further than past initiatives.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Condemns South African Aid to Rebels

MB211522 Dakar PANA in English 1512 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Mongu (Zambia), 21 March, (ZANA/PANA) — President Kenneth Kaunda has strongly condemned racist South Africa for its dirty methods of helping rebels to rise against independent African countries especially Mozambique, Angola, Lesotho and Botswana.

(?Dr Kaunda recalled) that South Africa had done the same to Zambia when it trained the Mushala gang which took the Zambian defence force eight years to destroy.

He said South Africa deserves to be condemned as it was still fighting independent African states after failing to eliminate apartheid in its own country.

President Kaunda made the charges today when he addressed public meeting at the town of Mongu. The president who referred to the Sharpeville incident when South African soldiers butchered 69 people on March 21 emphasized that apartheid is going to die because it is an evil thing. President Kaunda said March 21 (?was) remembered today worldwide with deep regrets.

He said although many lives had been lost since the Sharpeville massacre, black people, coloureds and Asians are [word indistinct] on Botha to declare apartheid dead.

The president added that the [word in distinct] in South Africa were saying that enough is enough and that they will not rest until justice and fair play is achieved in the country.

ZIMBABWE

Housing Minister Leaves for CPCZ Congress

MB221109 Harare Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The minister of public construction and national housing, Comrade Simbarashe Mumbengegwi, has left for Prague to attend the 17th Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. The congress starts on Monday next week.

Dissidents' 'Atrocities' To Be Chronicled

MB241223 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1225 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Harare, March 23, SAPA — The Zimbabwe Department of Information will chronicle the atrocities commited by dissidents in Matabeleland for the information of Zimbabweans and the rest of the world.

The party's secretary for publicity and information, Mr Nathan Shamuyarira, said the atrocities had to be well documented and at the same time it had to be shown that dissidents were serving the interests of a foreign power, ZIANA News Agency reports.

He said "underground" political parties in Matabeleland were trying to blame the government for the atrocities and his department had started to show that dissidents were armed and supported by South Africa. To this end the party would chronicle the atrocities and publish them in Shona and Ndebele.

The party was also concerned about the spread of propaganda beamed from "the misnamed" Radio Truth in South Africa.

He said that to counter this "insidious propaganda", the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation would be approached to step up the South African propaganda.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 MARCH 1986

Libyan-U.S. Clash in Gulf of Sidra

Libya will continue its "brave opposition" to the United States and will consider any U.S. target as "hostile," the People's committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau told foreign ambassadors in a statement reported by JANA. The committee accused the United States of endangering peace and security by firing missiles "toward libyan territory and from inside Libyan territorial waters." Monitored Libyan media have provided no further details of the results of U.S. attacks except for JANA's claim, cited by Tripoli radio and television, that the rocket shelling of the suburbs of surt caused no damage. The television also broadcast Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's statement in a telephone conversation with the YAR president that Arab support for Libya shows that the Americans "cannot deal with every part of the Arab nation individually." One of Al-Qadhdhafi's close aides told a French radio station that "the entire Arab nation backs Libya" and that the U.S. "aggression" will result in reprisals against U.S. interests, either in the Arab world or elsewhere, according to AFP.

Meanwhile, the Arab League Council expressed "absolute backing" for Libya in a statement reported by KUNA, urging the Arab states to assist Libya to repel the U.S. attacks and calling on the United States to immediately cease all military operations against Libya. The foreign ministers also called for a UN Security Council meeting to discuss the grave situation in the Mediterranean. Among other expressions of Arab support for Libya, Moroccan King Hassan II declared "full solidarity" in a cable to Al-Qadhdhafi broadcast by Rabat radio, adding that Morocco will do "everything necessary" to help safeguard Libya's "integrity." An Algerian Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by Algiers radio likewise reaffirmed his country's support for Libya "in defense of the sanctity of its sovereignty" and denounced the U.S. use of force as "unacceptable." Syria confirmed its "complete solidarity" with Libya in an official statement carried by Damascus television, which also noted that Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to damascus with a reply message from Col al-Qadhdhafi for the Syrian president. Meanwhile, Al-Qadhdhafi discussed the Gulf of Sidra situation in a telephone conversation with Saudi King Fahd, Jeddah radio noted. The radio did not confirm Tripoli television's contention that Fahd expressed support for Libya. In another development, the Sudanese Army chief of staff stated Sudan's support for Libya against the U.S. "aggression" during a meeting with the Libyan Armed Forces commander in Tripoli, according to JANA. For Egypt's part, a Foreign Ministry statement carried by MENA expressed concern over the situation in the Gulf of Sidra, calling for self-restraint and an end to acts of violence.

As for the Palestinians, the PLO issued a statement in Tunis expressing "full solidarity with the fraternal Libyan people" in the face of the U.S. "imperialist onslaught," KUNA reported. An official spokesman for Sabri al-Banna's group, Fatah-the Revolutionary council, warned in a statement reported by JANA that his organization will henceforth target all American "imperialist interests" wherever they are.

In contrast, the Israeli Prime Minister's Office and Foreign Ministry welcomed the U.S. military action against Libya in announcements reported by IDF radio, which pointed out that the U.S. pilots' experience against SAM-5's will be of interest to Israel.

Lebanon

A booby-trapped car exploded in the al-Ashrafiyah area of east Beirut 26 March causing more than 30 casualties, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force carried out a "devastating" raid against Iran's Moshk camp early 26 March, an Iraqi spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Earlier, the commander of Iran's Revolution Guards Corps called on Iranians to get more involved in the war effort, advising them to ignore "vast foreign propaganda for blunting mass fervor and dampening the public enthusiasm," according to IRNA. Tehran radio broadcast an Iranian Foreign Ministry statement accusing Iraq of renewed chemical weapons attacks in the Al-Faw area over the past 2 days and warning that unless the attacks are stopped, Iran will be "unwillingly forced to adopt other methods to defend itself and stop this dangerous act." In other developments, the Arab League Council in a statement reported by KUNA condemned Iran's occupation of Iraqi territory and expressed concern over "the Iranian threat to the security, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Arab Gulf states." The statement was issued "against Syrian and Libyan reservations," KUNA added.

Morocco-SDAR

Eight Moroccan soldiers were killed in two attacks by Polisario forces north of Amgala 20 March, Algiers radio reported, citing an SDAR Information Ministry Communique.

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Activities of Arab League Council Meeting Reported

Council Discusses Syria-Iran Coordination

LD251634 KUWAIT KUNA in English 1502 GMT 25 Mar 86

[by Nabil al-Baradie]

[Text] Tunis, March 25 (KUNA) — A seven-man Arab League committee Tuesday [25 March] concluded an in-camera meeting allocated to discussions of issues on agenda of the ordinary 85th session of the Arab League Council currently in session here.

The Council then resumed sitting behind closed doors with only chief delegates and permament representatives at the league attending.

The seven-member committee groups foreign ministers of Jordan, Tunisia, Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Syria in addition to Algerian health minister.

Diplomatic source told KUNA that the morning session witnessed debates on the importance of holding an urgent Arab summit conference and implementing the joint Arab defense pact.

Meanwhile, a well informed source told KUNA that a number of chief delegates had frankly touched on Syrian-Iranian coordination at a time when Iranian forces are invading Iraqi territory.

The source said that the Syrian foreign minister reported that his government was making use of relations with Iran as a "security valve preventing the Tehran government from trying to invade other countries in the Arab Gulf region."

He explained that when the Iraqi deputy premier and foreign minister asked for implementation of the joint Arab defense pact and the Arab League Charter, the head of the PLO Political Department took the stand affirming that the issue in question is much greater than that. "It is an issue of a pan-Arab commitment because the ongoing war at the eastern gate of the Arab nation aims at creating a more dangerous Israel," he elaborated.

Other members of the attending delegations will later tonight join the chief delegates in an expanded meeting to discuss the agenda after its endorsement and inclusion of the American aggression against Libya.

Confirms 'Solidarity' With Libya

LD260005 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] This evening, the Arab League Council called on the United States to immediately halt any further military action against Libya. The statement, issued by the Arab foreign ministers, said that the Council has decided to ask the Security Council to meet to discuss the dangerous situation arising from the U.S. aggression against Libya. The statement, which was approved unanimously, confirmed full solidarity with Libya. It also denounced the [word indistinct] U.S. aggression and called on the Arab countries to provide Libya with assistance to confront it.

Calls for U.S. Fleet Withdrawal

LD260918 Kuwait KUNA in English 0800 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis, March 26 (KUNA) — The Arab League Council starts its third day of deliberation Wednesday morning after having strongly condemned Iranian occupation of Iraqi territory, Iranian [word indistinct] against non-belligerent Gulf states and American aggression against Libya.

A Council statement, adopted last night against Syrian and Libyan reservations, expressed "member states' all-out solidarity with Iraq in its legitimate defense of national sovereignty, security and territorial integrity."

The Council voiced "profound anxiety over continuation of Iranian aggression and occupation of Iraqi territories and (Tehran's) persisting rejection of all international initiatives, calls and resolutions urging cessation of aggression and advising a peaceful settlement to the conflict on the basis of international law."

The statement, also expressed deep concern over "the Iranian threat to the security, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Arab Gulf states and the perilous situation stemming from a fresh Iranian thrust into ... Iraq."

The Council, "considering itself in continuous session to follow up the developments, has commissioned League Secretary General Chedli Klibi to prepare a [word indistinct] on the war developments for taking the appropriate measures to tackle the situation."

As regards the American attacks on libya, the Council said in a separate statement that "continuation of this flagrant violation of the sovereignty and independence of Libya (?territories) represents a threat to the safety and security of Arab countries and the world at large."

The unanimous resolution said "the U.S. would have to bear the full responsibility for any dangers arising from this aggression."

The Council, voicing "absolute backing for Libya against the ferocious aggression of the U.S. Administration," urged Arab countries to extend assistance to Libya, each according to his means, to repel the American attacks.

The statement called on the U.S. Government to "immediately cease aggression and all military operations against Libya and withdraw its fleets from the (Mediterranean) area." The Council, after deciding itself in permanent session, called on Arab countries to summon a Security Council meeting to discuss the grave situation in the Mediterranean. The Council also decided to launch an international campaign to highlight the instability and insecurity in the Mediterranean following the American provocations.

Libyan Official on Arab Support

LD251653 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1507 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis, 25 Mar (KUNA) — An important Libyan offiical expressed here today his belief that Arabs "will surely stand like one man by the side the Libyan Jamahiriyah and toward the latest U.S. aggression against it." He did not, however, deny or confirm the possibility of his country asking the Arab League Council currently convened in the Tunis to implement the clauses of the Joint Arab Defense Treaty vis-a-vis the U.S. aggression.

The deputy secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, Amran Hamudah, denied, when he answered a question put to him in a press conference, which he held on the fringes of the 85th regular session of the Arab League Ministerial Council being currently being held here, that his country had asked Morocco to mediate in order to lessen the tension between it and the United States.

He said that the visit of the secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, Kamil al-Mansur, to Rabat had nothing to do with the U.S. aggression; it was, however, within the framework of consultation between the two countries, which are linked by the Afrab-African Union.

In answering a question on whether there was any timing between the U.S. aggression against the Gulf of Sidra and the start of the meeting of the Arab League Council, which was scheduled to discuss the Iraq-Iran war, in order to divert attention from what it is going on currently in the Arabian Gulf, Mr. Hamudah said: "The timing of the U.S. aggression against Libya clearly indicates U.S. arrogance and its disrespect for the Arab nation: While the Arab League Council is meeting, the United States has carried out this attack in order to show contempt for the Arab consensus."

In answering a question on whether his country will ask for the implementation of the Joint Arab Defense Treaty toward the U.S. aggression against its territories Mr. Hamudah said "The Arab world has witnessed several events, like the Israeli invasion of South Lebanon etc...Arab countries did not, however, ask for the implementation of such a treaty." He added: "We, as Arabs, have the same fate...No doubt the Arabs will certainly stand as one man by the side of the Jamahiriyah in the face of the U.S. aggression."

When he was asked whether the subject of the aforementioned U.S. aggression would be put forward before the current session of the Arab League Council, Mr. Hamudah said: "You do remember that the Council, during its latest emergency meeting, decided that it would remain in constant and permanent meeting to follow up the U.S. aggression against Libya...and thereby should think that the Arab League Council will discuss this matter during the current session."

PLO Condemns U.S. Moves Against Libya

LD251526 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis, 25 Mar (KUNA) — The PLO today condemned the latest U.S. aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriyah and considered it "a continuation for the U.S. policy [word indistinct] against the Arab peoples, particularly the Palestinian people."

The official spokesman of the PLO's Political Department said in a statement, which had been prepared in advance and circulated (in Tunis) to the journalists, that the U.S. attack against the Jamahiriyah is "an overt aggressive action which it has, overtly and for a long time, been preparing for through the U.S. military maneuvers being staged by the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Gulf of Sidra."

The statement stressed that such an attack "constitutes a flagrant violation of all international laws and norms and epitomizes the anti-Arab nation U.S.-Israeli alliance and the implementation of the policies of hegemony and domination which the United States has been seeking to impose on the peoples of the region in order to subjugate them and sneak in its hostile schemes."

The PLO expressed "its full solidarity with the fraternal Libyan Arab people." It called "upon all Arab citizens to resolutely stand against this imperialist onslaught and beside their brothers in the Arab Jamahiriyah."

Palestinians Threaten 'Revenge' on U.S.

JN251842 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0145 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpt] The Palestinian organizations here expressed their support for Libya. We received statements from [PFLP leader] Dr George Habash, the uprising Fatah movement, and the Palestine National Salvation Front condemning the U.S. actions and threatening to take revenge on U.S. interests in the region.

Abu Nidal Group Targets U.S. Interests

NC252156 Paris AFP in English 2129 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus, March 25 (AFP) — The Fatah Revolutionary Council headed by Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] warned here Tuesday that it now considered all U.S. interests as legitimate targets for attack by its "revolutionaries"

FRC spokesman 'Atif Abu Bakr, in a statement distributed here, said that the movement was making available to Libya all its potential to counter the "well organised international terrorist" attack on Libya.

The statement called on all groups within the Palestinian movement as well as Arab liberation movements and Arab nationalist governments to destroy "the imperialist presence and interests."

Council Condemns Iranian Aggression

LD252333 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2235 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis 25 Mar (SPA) — The Arab League Council has condemned strongly the Iranian armed aggression against Iraq, its security, and territorial integrity. It also has condemned the Iranian threat to the Arab Gulf and reiterated the full solidarity of member states with Iraq in its legitimate defense of its sovereignty, security, and territorial integrity.

The Council has decided to continue its meeting to follow up the development of the situation, and asked the secretary general of the league to present a report on it, in order to take the necessary measures to deal with the situation.

The Council unanimously agreed about this decision, while Syria and Libya expressed reservations.

'Aziz Meets Jordanian, Bahraini Ministers in Tunis

JN241328 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1200 GMT 24 Nar 86

[Text] Tunis — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri in Tunis last night. He also met with Bahraini Foreign Minister Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah. During the two meetings, they reviewed the current Arab situation and ways to bolster joint Arab action.

With Tunisian, Kuwaiti Counterparts

JN241439 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1351 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis, 24 (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here today with Beji Caid Es-sebsi, Tunisian minister of foreign affairs. Talks dealt with the latest Iraq-Iran war developments and bilateral cooperation in various areas, in addition to ways of bolstering joint Arab action.

Tariq 'Aziz also met with Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir and discussed with him the current Arab situation.

With Tunisian Prime Minister

JN252014 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Tunis, 25 Mar (INA) — Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali met here today with Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Following the meeting, 'Aziz said he briefed Mzali on the situation at the battlefront and Iraq's ability to crush aggression and expel invaders from Iraqi iews on their close bilateral relations, the current Arab situation, and the topics being discussed during the current Arab League Council session.

'Arafat on Relations With Jordan, Syria, Lebanon

JN251833 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 25 Mar (SUNA) — Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat has reiterated his rejection of Security Council Resolution 242 because it deals with the Palestinian people as refugees. In a prolonged statement to the Sudanese paper *AL SAHAFAH* during his recent visit to Sudan, 'Arafat asserted that armed Palestinian struggle will not stop. He added that the Palestinian people will continue their struggle as the Vietnamese struggle continued during the Paris talks and as the Algerian struggle continued during the first and second (Evian) talks.

On the Jordanian stand and the (?secret) talks related to the international conference, Yasir 'Arafat said that the Jordanian monarch King Husayn represented an indirect channel between the Palestinians and the Americans. He said: Washington insisted that the PLO should recognize Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and stop armed struggle during the proposed international conference as a condition for participating in the conference. 'Arafat said that armed struggle will continue and that the Palestinians will continue to reject 242 because they are not refugees.

'Arafat told the Sudanese paper that contacts have been held and are being held these days between Damascus and the PLO to improve relations and normalize them again. 'Arafat said that in these talks the PLO had conveyed its opinion to its Syrian brothers and the Syrians had conveyed their opinion. He said: Despite the fact that no tangible results have yet appeared, we decided in the PNC to stop all propaganda campaigns. We in the PLO adhere to this decision although the Syrian side still announces some (?hostile) media stands every now and then.

With regard to the situation in Lebanon as well as the fighting and destruction, the Palestinian leader praised the Palestinian people's steadfastness in confronting the plots concocted in the Lebanese arena to annihilate them. 'Arafat accused a number of parties in this regard, including Israel and the Shi'ite Amal movement, which, as 'Arafat said, is working to (?annihilate) his people in their steadfast camps with the support of some Arab organs. 'Arafat also addressed a special greeting to the Lebanese leader Walid Junblatt, who is facing a plot there to balkanize Arab Lebanon, as 'Arafat said. 'Arafat praised the existing Lebanese-Palestinian cohesion and coordination reinforced by Junblatt. He said that this had resulted in the return of armed struggle against the Israeli presence in southern Lebanon.

'Arafat was asked about the reason for this surprising visit to Khartoum. He said that the visit was being paid at this time to assert the stand of the Palestinian people and the PLO alongside and in support of the Sudanese people in confronting the new plot concocted against them in the south. 'Arafat affirmed that the PLO places all its political and nonpolitical resources at the disposal of Sudan. He expressed hope that peaceful efforts will succeed in stopping the rebellion in the south [words indistinct].

Fatah-Syrian Talks Said To Bear Fruit

GF241419 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic
23 Mar 86 pp 1, 21

[Excerpt] Damascus — A top Palestinian source in Damascus stated yesterday that the exchanges that have taken place over the past few days between security and political officials of the Syrian Government and the Fatah Central Committee in Berlin and Nicosia have resulted in the release of a number of leaders and members of Fatah, which is led by Yasir 'Arafat. They had been arrested on various charges. The exchanges also resulted in a halt to the propaganda campaigns between the two sides.

In a statement to *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM*, the source indicated that the Palestinian side pledged not to stand against the Syrian solution in Lebanon, that is, to facilitate the Syrian role in

Lebanon after the evidence that the U.S. Administration and Israel are diligently working to impair the Syrian role in Lebanon designed to bring about a solution satisfactory to everybody.

Within this context, the Palestinian side, led by Abu al-Hawl, [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid] head of the revolution's security, pledged that Fatah — as a result of a decision by its Central Committee — will not undertake to oppose any Syrian solution in Lebanon. The two sides agreed to continue their dialogue in the future for the sake of higher national and pan-Arab interests.

Reportage on PLO Anti-Israeli Operations

Charges Detonated Near Tel Aviv

JN211814 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] A spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces General Command has stated the following: One of our groups of fighters operating inside the occupied homeland planted a number of timed explosive charges inside a Zionist enemy center in Kafr Saba north of Tel Aviv. The Palestinian charges exploded this morning, heavily damaging the center and killing or wounding a large number of enemy personnel. The occupation forces cordoned off the area, carried out an extensive search, and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of being involved in the operation. After carrying out its mission, our group successfully withdrew from the scene. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces General Command.

Joint Forces Attack Lahd Patrol

JN221817 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] A group belonging to the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces attacked a patrol belonging to the militias of the agent army of southern Lebanon near the village of Bint Jubayl last night. The attack, carried out with machineguns and hand grenades, killed or wounded all the agent patrol's personnel.

A statement distributed by the joint forces command in the city of Sidon last night said that the attack, in which missiles were also used, damaged a vehicle belonging to Antoine Lahd's agent militias.

4 Fatah Members Killed

JN211920 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The Palestinian Fatah movement has announced the death of four of its members who were part of a commando group which tried to infiltrate into Israel at dawn today. They were killed in a clash with an Israeli patrol after the Palestinian commandos had succeeded in capturing four Israeli soldiers who were also killed in the clash. This came in a statement issued in Sidon, southern Lebanon today. The statement carried the PLO's emblem and the signature of the Palestine National Liberation Army-southern command.

The statement indicated that the commando group, which was named after martyr Fahd al-Qawasimah, was planning to attack an Israeli Army position in the settlement of Zar'it in northern Israel. It added that the rest of the Palestinian commandos managed to return safely to base.

In another development, informed Palestinian sources told AFP that the supporters of Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat have returned to the 'Ayn al-Hulway and Al-Miyah Wa Miyah refugee camps near Sidon despite the major official presence there of anti-'Arafat and pro-Syrian Palestinian organizations. These sources emphasized that 'Arafat's supporters have recently returned in large numbers to three camps in the Tyre area. They also intensified their presence in the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps in West Beirut.

Military Warehouses Destroyed

JN251923 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1718 GMT 25 Mr 86

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command has stated the following:

Our heroes from the martyr Salamah al-Asmar group operating inside the occuied homeland have managed to pass by all the enemy's security barriers and to place an explosive charge inside a military bakery and its warehouses in the industrial zone in the Betah Tiwa area. The explosive charge went off yesterday morning on 24 March 1986, destroying the bakery and the warehouses despite the Zionist firemen's attempt to control the fire and prevent it from reaching nearby factories. Our revolutionaries returned safely to their bases. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces General Command

The military spokesman also stated the following:

One of our revolutionaries from special group "A" has attacked a Zionist soldier with a knife. He managed to stab the soldier, seriously wounding him, and seize his infantry weapon. Our revolutionary returned safely to his base. A large force from the police and the border guard rushed to the area and besieged it. The search operations continued up to the preparation of this statement at 1100 the day before yesterday on 24 March. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command

Joint Forces Attack Positions

JN251949 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1718 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The men of the Palestinian-nationalist Lebanese joint forces yesterday launched a katyusha rocket attack against the settlement of Yizre'el in the northern part of occupied Palestine in retaliation for the Zionist occupation forces' shelling of the

City of Nabatiyah in southern Lebanon. A statement issued by the joint forces says that three were killed and five were wounded in the ranks of the Zionist occupation forces and the militias of the so-called Army of southern Lebanon. The occupation forces and their agent militias shelled the city of Nabatiyah and three other villages in southern Lebanon yesterday. Three civilians were killed and 30 others were wounded. The shops and the schools closed as a result of the shelling.

BAHRAIN

Paper Terms U.S. 'Aggression' Predetermined

GF260754 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0725 GMT 26 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Manama, 26 Mar (WAKH) — The Bahraini newspaper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* today comments on the U.S. aggression against Libya. The paper notes that no matter how numerous the alleged U.S. reasons for launching hostile aggression against Libya, the truth is that this cannot be separated from the framework of conspiracies and attacks directed at every part of the Arab world.

The paper adds that all indications point to the fact that the current U.S. aggression against Libya is a predetermined aggression, the plans for which were mapped out in the Pentagon a long time ago, and for which the United States has mobilized immense naval and air power, the likes of which can only be mobilized by a superpower. The paper affirms that the United States is not expected to halt its aggression against a spot which it has placed within its plan for hegemony before proceeding far in its attempt to fulfill a goal represented by its desire to make Libya and its Government submit to Washington.

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ urges the Arab countries to unite in order to confront any external aggression from any party whatsoever. It says that if the current state of division in the Arab world continues and if what has so far happened is not sufficient to restore reason to the abstracted Arab minds, then aggressions will be directed at the Arab countries a second and a third time, one country after the other, until they are subjugated to ambitious external powers.

Paper Cites Reaction to U.S., Libya Conflict

GF260550 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 26 Mar 86 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] Libya last night vowed to fight back against American "terrorism" as fresh clashes were reported between the two countries in the Mediterranean.

Gulf-based diplomats were generally keeping a low profile over the affairs.

A string of embassies in Manama declined to comment on the developments, but the Soviet Embassy in Kuwait was swift to attack the U.S.

"We consider their action will aggravate the whole situation in the Middle East and in the world generally," said a senior diplomat at the embassy.

He described the U.S. action as "irresponsible."

Bahrain-based French ambassador, Pierre Justinard, whose country has brushed with Libyan-backed forces in Chad, said he could offer no comment.

The British Embassy spokesman referred queries to the Foreign Office in London, and Indian and PLO representatives declined to discuss the crisis.

Libyan diplomatic missions in Abu Dhabi, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia were apparently unmanned.

A senior Bahrain Foreign Ministry official, Shaykh 'Abd al-Rahman ibn Faris Al Khalifah, the head of administration, said the island would not comment.

KUWAIT

Oil Minister Returns From Geneva OPEC Meeting

LD260808 Kuwait KUNA in English 2001 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 25 (KUNA) — Oil and Industry Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Adhbi returned here this evening from Geneva where he attended an extraordinary consultative conference of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

During marathon talks, extending over full nine days, in the Swiss capital, the 13 OPEC oil ministers failed to reach consensus on means to bring down the organization's current production ceiling of 16 million barrels of crude per day to beyond 15 million mpd, as a step towards stabilizing the world market and oil prices.

The effort, which began March 16, was aimed at propping up price of crude which, over the past three months, has sharply fell on spot markets to below 14 dollars per barrel and at restoring it to the official level of 28 dollars per barrel.

OMAN

Foreign Minister Returns From Tunisia Meeting

GF260758 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Oman today from Tunisia after attending the meetings of the 85th ordinary session of the Arab League Council.

He was received by the Tunisian ambassador to Oman; and ambassador 'Ali ibn 'Abdallah al-Musafir, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry.

PDRY

U.S. Acts Against Libya Reveal 'Hostile' Policy

GF251413 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The PDRY followed with extreme concern recent developments in the region of the Mediterranean Sea as a result of the serious escalation being practiced by U.S. imperialism against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, represented by the provocative military maneuvers near the Libyan coasts of the Mediterranean Sea. This escalation reached a point where the U.S. Administration carried out a conspicuous hostile military act against the Arab Libyan people and its Armed Forces, who are defending their legitimate rights in the regional waters of the Gulf of Sidra.

The PDRY, while it follows with extreme concern this serious escalation of the provocative and hostile acts to which Libya is being subjected designed to harm Libya's independence and its sovereignty on its territories and its legitimate rights in the regional waters of the Gulf of Sidra, believes that these hostile acts will only lead to serious consequences, not for Libya alone, but for the situation in the region of the Mediterranean Sea.

These acts reveal the nature of the U.S. policy, which is hostile to our Arab people and which is part of the imperialist-Zionist schemes designed against the Arab nationalist and progressive regimes and their people.

The PDRY, while it strongly condemns those hostile acts against Libya, reiterates its solidarity with and support for Libya and the Arab Libyan people, so that they can confront those hostile acts. The PDRY also fully supports all of the measures Libya has adopted to defend its independence and the sovereignty of its territories and to protect its legitimate rights in its regional waters.

QATAR

U.S.-Libyan Conflict Could 'Kindle' New Arab War

GF251418 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Commentary: "The Military Confrontation Between the United States and Libya — Is It a Prelude to a New War in the Arab Arena?"]

[Text] The military confrontation that took place between the United States and Libya in the Gulf of Sidra yesterday has kindled a clash between the two sides the consequences of which are unknown. Political analysts warn that what happened between the U.S. 6th Fleet and the Libyan aircraft and air defenses yesterday will perhaps be a prelude to the kindling of a new war in the Arab region, particularly between Syria and Israel. The following report focuses on events in Libya's Gulf of Sidra.

The events between the United States and Libya in Libya's Gulf of Sidra occurred yesterday when U.S. warships, including 3 aircraft carriers and 240 fighter planes, began maneuvers in the Gulf of Sidra opposite the Libyan coast on 23 March. Sources close to the Pentagon admitted that several U.S. warships yesterday crossed what Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi calls "the line of death" at the entrance to the Gulf of Sidra, in what appears to be a test of Libya's determination to defend its territorial waters and its sovereignty over the Gulf of Sidra. Libya did not remain silent in the face of the U.S. violation of its sovereignty over its territorial waters. Tripoli radio reported that Libya responded to the encroachment on what it considers Libyan territorial waters and used missiles to shoot down three U.S. aircraft. The White House, however, denied that any U.S. aircraft were downed, but indicated that six Libyan surface-to-air missiles were fired at U.S. ships and aircraft that were carrying out peaceful maneuvers in the international waters and airspace of the Gulf of Sidra — in the words of the White House. The White House stated that in retaliation for the Libyan attack, U.S. aircraft sunk a Libyan gunboat carrying a missile launcher resulting in the death of its 27 crew members, and fired two anti-radar missiles at a SAM-5 missile battery near the Gulf of Sidra on the Libyan coast.

Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, warned that all Libyan forces that approach U.S. units that have since 23 March been carrying out 10-day long maneuvers opposite the Libyan coast will be considered to harbor what he termed as "hostile intentions." Libya responded to the warning by saying that the Libyan masses have joined their battalion and are now ready to move to the Gulf of Sidra and form suicide squads. The Libyan radio stated that the Libyan people do not fear the U.S. fleets however great their power, and reaffirm their determination to turn the waters of the Gulf of Sidra into a sea of blood.

On the diplomatic level, Libya informed the United Nations of the provocations by the U.S. 6th Fleet. Kamil Hasan al-Mansur, Libyan secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, strongly protested to Javier Perez de Cuellar over the maneuvers by U.S. warships opposite the Libyan coast. In a message to the UN secretary general, Al-Mansur stated that Libya warns the international community of the gravity of the consequences of the provocative U.S. exercises and finds itself compelled to exercise its right of self-defense in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter.

The Soviet stand came in the form of a denunciation of the U.S. stand reported by TASS. TASS said that the action by U.S. aircraft against Libya is an act of piracy that is contrary to international law. It added that the U.S. action is an indivisible part of an extremely dangerous foreign policy and that U.S. President Reagan is violating the special laws of the military decisionmaking act by ignoring the U.S. Congress and without previous consultation with it. Concerning the U.S. Congress itself, most of the congressmen who commented on the events of the Gulf of Sidra have voiced support for the decision of the U.S. President to carry out maneuvers inside the Gulf of Sidra and to violate the Libyan territorial waters under the pretext that the U.S. fleet is conducting maneuvers in international waters. However some U.S. congressmen such as Senator Mark Hatfield, and Patrick Lee have expressed worry over the risk undertaken by President Reagan in the Gulf of Sidra and the possibility of terrorist acts of revenge against the United States.

Although the development of the events between the United States and Libya yesterday seems to be an isolated and limited action for previously determined reasons according to which the United States holds Libya responsible for protecting terrorist groups, some political analysts strongly warn that what is currently happening in the region of the Gulf of Sidra is not totally separated from what is happening in the region of the Middle East, especially the development in the Golan Heights and on the Lebanese fronts. The political analysts refer to the deployment of more than 100 Israeli heavy tanks, and more than 110 armored vehicles including minesweepers in the middle and the western sectors in southern Lebanon. They also refer to the news carried yesterday about the Israeli Army movement in the direction of Jabal al-Shaykh region in the Western parts of the occupied Syrian Golan Heights. Other sources have mentioned that Syria has amassed about 30 tanks in the narrow sector of the liberated Golan Heights. Meanwhile Israeli officials have stated that the sentence which was included in the recent speech of President Hafiz al-Asad which stated that the Golan Heights will be in the heart of the Syrian territories and not at the edge, indicates Syrian determination not only to liberate the Golan Heights occupied since 1967 and which Israel officially annexed in 1980, but also to liberate parts from the Galile region in northern occupied Palestine.

It remains to say that the Zionist enemy is always — according to our previous experience — exploiting the statements of the Arab leaders to launch a new aggression against the Arab nation. In this regard, what is happening in the Libyan Gulf of Sidra is an act to divert the attention from what could happen in the Golan Heights? The answer will be provided during the next few days.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd, Al-Qadhdhafi Phone Conversation Noted

GF261010 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] SPA has learned that a telephone conversation was held last night between President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to discuss the situation connected with the Gulf of Sidra.

UAE

Oil Minister Returns From Geneva OPEC Meeting

GF251937 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1750 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Mar (WAKH) — Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, returned to Abu Dhabi from Geneva this evening after participating in the extraordinary meetings of OPEC.

In a statement upon his arrival carried by WAM, Dr Al-'Utaybah expressed his regret at the stalemate which the OPEC conference has reached. He stated that such a stalemate was reached because a number of countries have not yet apprehended the stage through which the oil industry is passing and its repercussions and impact on the economics of these developing countries.

He noted that these countries had no desire to offer equal sacrifices so the conference reached a deadlock. He expressed hope that further efforts would be exerted to render the upcoming conference successful.

Dr al-'Utaybah warned that the current stage is very critical. He said that oil prices would further decline.

In conclusion, Dr al-'Utaybah asserted the UAE's stand, which is based on full cooperation with OPEC, its member countries, and the non-OPEC oil-producing countries for reaching an appropriate and quick solution to the current situation.

Papers Denounce U.S. 'Aggression' Against Libya

[Editorial report] Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic at 0710 GMT on 26 March carries a 1500-word report on the editorials of five UAE newspapers, all denouncing the U.S. "aggression" against Libya and urging the Arab countries to adopt "an immediate unanimous stand in order to stand alongside Libya vis-a-vis this aggression."

The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* expresses surprise at the silence of some Arab capitals and the reserve observed by other Arab countries concerning this aggression. The paper says: "The Arab nation is required today to move quickly and as one rank in a decisive demonstration against the U.S. aggression. There are numerous practical steps that are capable of halting U.S. excessive arrogance, and what frightens U.S. arrogance is capable of frightening Zionist pride."

The newspaper *AL-BAYAN* affirms that the goal of the U.S. maneuvers is not to test the ability of the U.S. Navy and sophisticated missiles but to escalate the "provocative maneuvers" to the extent of carrying out "an aggression against Libya's sovereignty and its Arab territory." The paper emphasizes Libya's right to confront this aggression and says that the United States must realize that there is unanimous Arab rejection of the "aggression," in addition to the fact that it has been condemned by world public opinion and members of the U.S. Congress.

AL-WAHDAH urges all Arabs to support Libya vis-a-vis the "U.S. aggression and the cowboy policy which is aimed at destroying the spirit of Arab defiance and will". The paper says: "The true face of the United States has been revealed and the U.S. hostility toward all Arabs has become evident." The paper adds: "We must emerge from the circle of denunciation and condemnation to a path of action, and work in a fraternal spirit to respond with all the means that we possess to the barbaric U.S. aggression against Arab Libya."

AL-FAJR says: "If Libya is not the only country at which the U.S. aggression is aimed, then it will be very dangerous to leave Libya to fight the battle alone. A response must come from all the countries at which this aggression is in fact aimed, and from other international powers which cannot possibly accept that the world should be turned into an arena of U.S. hooliganism." The paper points out that the world's support for Egypt during the 1956 aggression against it put an end to the stage of old colonialist hegemony; "what is required now is that the whole world should support Libya as an expression of rejecting the hegemony attempts of the new U.S. colonialism."

AL-KHALIJ extols the Libyan people's resistance before which the value of U.S. missiles, boats, and planes is diminished. The paper says that the United States would not have dared to carry out this aggression if it had expected an Arab response on the level of recalling ambassadors and implementing an economic boycott.

YAR

President Phones Al-Qadhdhafi To Express Support

GF251755 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, today telephoned his brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the 1 September Revolution. The former asserted our country's backing for the brothers in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in their defense of their territory, of their legitimate rights, and of their steadfastness in the face of the bestial aggression executed by the forces of the U.S. 6th Fleet against Libyan territory. He also stressed our country's commitment to the provisions of the joint Arab Defense Pact.

Paper on U.S. 'Brutal' Aggression Against Libya

GF260700 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 26 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* today comments on the hostile and malicious attitude of the United States toward the Arab nation. The paper affirms that the acts of terrorism and piracy that the United States is carrying out against the fraternal Arab Libyan people is merely an episode in the series of U.S.-Zionist aggression and conspiracy to which the Arab people have grown accustomed.

AL-JUMHURIYAH asserts that the latest U.S. military escalation off the Libyan shores in the Gulf of Sidra, the frequent holding of U.S. hostile and provocative military maneuvers, the violation of Libyan airspace by U.S. planes, and the brutal aggression that the U.S. planes carried out by raiding Libyan vessels and Libyan positions in Surt, represents long-harbored hostile and colonialist intentions that take the form of a direct threat not only to the sovereignty and integrity of the territory and waters of the Libyan people, but to the sovereignty, freedom, and independence of the whole Arab homeland, and a flagrant defiance of international conventions and world and human public opinion.

AL-JUMHURIYAH refers to our political leadership's anxiety and concern concerning this serious development, as expressed by the brother leader president through his affirmation to his Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of our country's support for the brothers in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in their defense of their land and their steadfastness vis-a-vis the brutal U.S. aggression carried out by the forces of the U.S. 6th Fleet against Libyan territory.

Egypt Voices Concern Over Gulf of Sidra Incidents

NC261000 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0950 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 26 Mar (MENA) — The Egyptian Foreign Ministry issued the following statement today on the situation in the Gulf of Sidra following clashes between the United States and Libya:

The Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt expresses its concern over the deteriorating situation in the Gulf of Sidra, which entails an escalation of tension and the possibility of a confrontation. Egypt calls for self-restraint and for a halt to all tension and acts of violence in the region.

Mubarak, 'Arafat Comment

NC261136 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1122 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 26 Mar (MENA) — Following 2 hours of talks with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at Al-Tahirah Palace today, President Mubarak responded to a question on the recent clashes between the United States and Libya. He said: We have issued a statement in this connection. We appeal for self-restraint and hope for an end to the acts of violence. 'Arafat was asked the same question, to which he replied: We oppose this aggression against Libya.

Prime Minister Lutfi Announces Economic Measures

NC260500 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Lutfi presided over a Cabinet meeting this morning. The conferees discussed the government's draft general budget for 1986-87, the comprehensive development plan for the new fiscal year, and the current economic situation.

During the session, the Cabinet approved a series of economic measures, which Dr Lutfi announced at a press conference after the meeting. The conference also was attended by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif. The prime minister denied rumors of price hikes affecting certain basic commodities. He pointed out that the repeated assertions regarding an increase in the cost of gasoline, sugar, and other primary goods are groundless. He added that the measures passed by the Cabinet today are part of a general plan for financial and economic reform, and are not the result of a drop in oil prices.

Dr Lutfi stressed that the policy of the NDP and the government takes account of those with limited incomes. His excellency the prime minister declared that salaries, wages, and raises would not be touched. The Cabinet approved periodic pay raises for all employees, which will take effect on schedule. It also agreed to a special 10-percent bonus for outstanding workers. Lutfi explained that the goal of these steps is to increase social justice.

The decisions that the prime minister made public today may be divided into three groups. The first will be submitted to the NDP's parliamentary representatives for drafting in their final form. They will then be presented to the People's Assembly for passage into law. Among these measures are the gradual imposition of fees on those who own vehicles, particularly large ones, and on those who travel abroad. In addition, laws will be promulgated to remedy the problems of tax evasion and speculation in building lots. Tuition for non-Egyptian students at Egyptian universities and institutions will be increased. However, education for Egyptian pupils will still be free in accordance with the Constitution.

Dr Lutfi also revealed that the telephone company is about to issue some decisions on the rationalization of telephone use. This means that the current annual charge of 30 pounds, as well as the 1,500 free calls a year, will remain unchanged. The cost of each extra call will be 5 piasters instead of 3. He noted that a new optional system for subscribers would be put into effect. Under its terms, a subscriber would be entitled to an unlimited number of calls. The fee will be 100 pounds a year for private homes, and 300 pounds for businees firms. In addition, he announced measures to facilitate the sale of luxury apartments to foreigners, and to offer dollar bonds, which would be exempt from inheritance tax. The central bank's commission on the deposit of foreign currency has been canceled.

The second group includes additional projects for the rationalization of government expenditures in line with precise objectives. It covers the arrival of, receptions for, and the visit of delegations; the use of government vehicles; and advertisements. The third group includes a commitment by the private sector to produce an additional 1-percent surplus, without affecting prices.

AL-AHRAM Editor on Imminent Economic Measures

PM251148 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition
in Arabic 24 Mar p 1

[Chief Editor Ibrahim Nafi' article: "Tomorrow's Measures: Merely a Step"]

[Excerpts] The Cabinet will announce tomorrow its decisions to deal with the situation resulting from the sudden drop in our revenues because of the big drop in oil prices. The drop in oil prices has resulted in a major deficit in the general budget. Dealing with this deficit cannot be left until the next budget because, otherwise, the problems created by it will be exacerbated. We all know that the drop in oil prices has, so far, caused us a loss of $700 million, which would increase to $1.2 billion in the next budget. Also, we all know that the rich Arab oil countries, which do not lack resources or suffer from a budget deficit, have rushed to take steps and draw up plans for urgent measures to deal with the drop in oil revenues.

Although I do not claim knowledge of the measures to be adopted, it is clear that in our country these will follow two main course:

First, rationalizing expenditure, which is necessary and required for the next 3 years in order to clear the bottleneck that our country is experiencing because the dates for the payment of the instalments on all the debts which our country obtained in the seventies will fall due during this period, as well as because of the drop in oil prices.

Second, increasing revenues through imposing certain direct or indirect taxes on those who can afford it. This measure, too, is necessary and required. We often have called for it because low income people have nothing more that we could ask as a contribution to alleviating the burden on the state. Any contribution to alleviating the burden on the state should be borne only by those who can afford it.

Meanwhile, we must assure everybody that we were not against consumption of luxury goods or against people enjoying their money. We only ask that those who can afford it should to pay society a tax on luxury consumption that should contribute to alleviating the burden on the state for the benefit of low income people, thus ensuring social justice in our society, particularly following the recent events that have proved to everybody that the question of social justice cannot be ignored and that class differences between rich and poor shouldnot be left to fate and the sudden outbreak of events.

The contribution of those who can afford it should be doubled since, with such a contribution, the burden on low income people will be alleviated. Thus, dignified life will be shared by all, the foundations of social peace and stability will be strengthened, and development and construction will proceed unhindered.

The limited, simple, and understandable measures that will be announced tomorrow must be part of a general plan to reform and rectify the economic course. It is true that altering the charges for certain services, such as telephones or license fees for luxury automobiles, in a realistic manner will not affect much those who hold telephone meetings or buy luxury automobiles; it also is true that we should consider these new limited measures merely a step on the path to economic reform.

Most important of all is that we should accept these measures totally convinced that there is no alternative to them and that they are necessary for protecting our society, tackling its problems, and defending both its present and its future.

AL-AHRAM Asks Greater Flexibility in U.S. Aid

PM251825 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 21 Mar 86 pp 1, 3

[Part Two of Chief Editor Ibrahim Nafi' article: "The World and Us: Egypt and the United States"]

[Excerpts] In last week's article we reviewed aspects of our relations with the United States. We said that these relations in the final analysis serve Egypt's strategic objectives of peace, stability, and development. What we mean by peace here is peace based on justice, which we are trying to achieve through exploiting our relations with the United States.

We said that the objectives of stability and development require a high standard of international cooperation, principally between Egypt and the two superpowers and, to a lesser extent, with the world's industrially advanced states and influential states in our region.

We reviewed the figures for U.S. economic and military aid to Egypt, which recently reached $2.8 billion annually and whose importance to Egypt has doubled since most of it has become an outright grant.

We now come to the question that some people like to ask, which is: Why this special relationship with the United States?

Our answer to the question is that our choice of the United States as the other party in our relations with one of the two superpowers is not due to ideological alignment, nor is it a choice in favor of the type of political thinking prevailing in that country. Rather, this choice stems from the common objectives of both parties to establish peace in the area. At a certain historical stage, we have found that we need the United States because, in our estimation, it is the party that is more capable of participating in a political solution to the problem and of influencing Israel to participate in this solution. If the Soviet Union was similarly capable of influencing Israel and pushing it toward a peaceful solution, we would have perhaps chosen the Soviet Union and nobody else, as we did in the 1960's, when we needed its assistance in the military confrontation with Israel.

When military confrontation with Israel was the solution and the method, we had close ties with the party that was capable of helping us in that confrontation, and when political confrontation with Israel became the solution and the method, we established close ties with the party that is capable of helping us in this confrontation.

Therefore, those who believe that our choice of the United States is made strictly because of the assistance it gives us are wrong, despite the fact that this assistance is of extreme importance for Egypt. This assistance requires greater understanding by the U.S. Administration of Egypt's position and role in the area and, particularly, of the economic conditions it is now experiencing. There is no doubt that boosting stability in Egypt and helping it to overcome the difficulties it is facing will be in the common interest of both parties, especially in view of the fact that 1986 and 1987 represent an economic and financial bottleneck for Egypt that will need greater assistance to negotiate this tight spot.

Unfortunately, the payment of instalments and interest on all the loans Egypt obtained from the world countries in the 1970's, with varying periods of grace, will fall due within these 2 years. During these 2 years, Egypt will have to pay $2.5 billion to $3 billion in debt repayments. Later, beginning in 1988, these obligations will drop to about $700 million. What has further complicated this economic difficulty is the situation Egypt is facing as a result of the drop in oil revenues by around $1.2 billion, as well as the drop in revenues from tourism and remittances by Egyptian expatriates.

These conditions call upon the United States to show deeper understanding and greater flexibility toward Egypt's demands for U.S. aid so that wider and more comprehensive benefits can be reaped from it.

We have often requested greater flexibility in the utilization of aid, giving as an example the U.S. treatment of Israel in this regard. We said that it would be useful if we were able to use the aid with similar freedom, but, so far, the United States has not responded to this request. We are hoping still that it will respond.

Another request: We are now paying the instalments of military debts we have owed to the United States since 1982, on which there is 12-percent interest. This constitutes a heavy burden on our budget. Yet, we are not asking the United States to write off these debts, because we realize that all Third World countries that obtain U.S. arms make a similar demand and that the United States cannot respond to the demand of one country for fear that other countries might demand similar treatment. But we request that the high interest be reviewed, particularly in view of the fact that interest rates have now dropped to around 8 percent.

A further request concerns the price of U.S. weapons on the basis of which the U.S. military debts are calculated. We realize that U.S. arms are more expensive than arms from the Eastern camp. Although this is justifiable in view of the more advanced technology utilized in these arms, yet, we also know that U.S. arms are being sold to Egypt at the commercial price. We think that Egypt's political and economic situation and the common strategic objectives between Egypt and the United States for the achievement of peace and stability provide sufficient justification for the United States — if it so wishes — to sell arms to Egypt at prices taking all these factors into consideration, and not at the commercial prices that do not take political factors into account.

We also realize that the United States cannot force its citizens to go to Egypt on tourist trips, but we also realize that truthful reporting by the U.S. Government on stability in the various world countries would be a signal to U.S. tourists to visit countries where it feels that its citizens are in no danger.

Among our requests of the United States is that its aid should not be restricted to Egypt, but also should include Sudan and other Nile-basin countries, so that Egypt can plan and implement long-term programs for the utilization of the Nile waters in the irrigation of new lands and the expansion of the cultivable area in our country. It is worth noting here in this regard that Egypt always tries to plan in order to avoid future problems and deal with them, while the U.S. Administration generally responds to the Egyptian Government's requests only regarding today's urgent problems.

There is no doubt that a look at Egypt's role in the area with the future in mind will enable the United States to understand Egypt's desire that U.S. aid should include its plans to exploit the Nile waters and to give technical aid to some African states. This is not a novelty, since the United States does offer Israel the means that enable it to give assistance to Africa. So why should not the same principle be applied to Egypt and its interest in Africa, which is more legitimate, greater, and wider than that of Israel?

We then come to a request that applies equally to the United States and the Soviet Union as far as we are concerned. There is no doubt that we in the Third World countries shoulder a major portion of the bill for the cold war between the two giants, because the increasing tension between the two sides and the receding coexistence between them adversely affects their aid to developing countries and their program to help these countries economically.

It is our right to ask them both to discuss together the possibility of reaching a better level of peaceful coexistence that would enable them to help the developing countries facing the world economic problem, for which purpose the United Nations is to hold a special session next May.

It is certainly our right to ask them to play a role in ending the Gulf war, in order to ease the terrible economic pressures from which the whole region is suffering as a result of that war. Ending that war would ease the burden on the Arab oil countries and would prompt them to transfer their financial deposits to other Arab countries that need such deposits, thereby improving the economic situation in these countries, including Egypt.

It is also our right to ask the U.S. Administration to place the Middle East problem on its list of urgent priorities since we have observed that its priorities in the recent past and at present unfortunately do not include the question of peace in the Middle East and that it focuses on its problems in Latin America and Asia, as well as on the dialogue between the two superpowers. While making this observation about the U.S. Administration, we do not, on the other hand, absolve the Arab side from blame for the fact that the Middle East problem has been put on the back burner where the U.S. list of priorities is concerned. The Arab side has not yet reached a practical joint formula that would prompt the United States to participate in the solution.

To conclude this talk about our relations with the United States, I would say that appreciating Egypt's role in the three overlapping spheres — the Arab sphere, the Islamic sphere, and the African sphere — should create better conditions for understanding the economic and political demands we make of the United States.

Out of fairness, we must say that we need to activate Egyptian-U.S. dialogue, which, so far, is overwhelmingly in the nature of a discourse by the U.S. side with Egypt rather than being a two-way dialogue between two sides. By dialogue here is meant the kind of dialogue in which the administration, the political bodies, the parties, and the research centers take part. We note, for example, that the number of U.S. envoys to Egypt is far larger than the number of Egyptian official envoys to the United States and that the number of political delegations from among congressmen is far larger than the number of Egyptian delegations that visit the United States for the same purpose. Since the structure of American society does not allow the giving of aid to other countries out of taxpayers' money without the approval of its parliamentary and popular bodies, we certainly need to enrich the dialogue with these institutions and with U.S. public opinion in order to create a better atmosphere for relations that would be more beneficial for Egypt and would better achieve its objectives in peace, stability, and development.

The talk about us and the world will continue.

Ghali on 7th Anniversary of Peace Treaty With Israel

NC251205 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1102 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 25 Mar (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has stressed Egypt's commitment to the peace treaty, to a peaceful solution, and to a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace. In a statement to MENA on the 7th anniversary of the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, Dr Ghali said that the signing of that treaty was an important event in the history of Egypt and the Middle East. It was also a major step toward achieving a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace in the region.

He added: The aim of Egypt's efforts for peace has never been confined to reaching a unilateral settlement or to liberating Egyptian territory. We have worked and are still working for the liberation of the occupied West Bank, including Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip, and the Golan, and for the Palestinian people to exercise its full national rights like all other peoples. Dr Ghali went on to say: We have achieved a lot since 1977, but we still have much to do to attain this peace. There are obstacles facing us still. What is important is to work for peace in order to overcome these obstacles, otherwise we shall lose hope that right will prevail in the end.

Delegation Departs for More Tabah Talks in Israel

NC252214 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 25 Mar (MENA) — Ambassador Nabil al-'Arabi, director of the Foreign Ministry's Legal Department, left Cairo for Tel Aviv this evening at the head of the Egyptian delegation to the sixth round of talks on Tabah. In a predeparture statement, Ambassador Nabil al-'Arabi said that real differences still existed with regard to some of the articles pertaining to the terms of arbitration. Foremost among these differences remains the formulation of the question to be put before the arbitral body.

Opposition Youths Urge Boycott of Israeli Pavilion

PM251354 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 18 Mar 86 p 4

["Text" of statement issued by the Union of Socialist Party Youth: "Boycott the Zionist Pavillion"]

[Text] On the occasion of the Egyptian Government allowing Israel to set up a pavilion at the Cairo International Fair now being held in the Nasr township fair grounds, the Union of Socialist Labor Party Youth issued a statement condemning the Egyptian Government's weak and irresponsible attitude and calling on Egyptian young people and citizens to boycott the Zionist pavilion. The following is the text of the statement:

Free young men of Egypt, noble citizens: The NDP government insists on provoking our patriotic feelings and showing indifference to the nation's dignity and honor. The government this year allowed the Zionists murderers, who every day kill an Arab even before the blood of the previous days martyr has dried, to set up a permanent pavilion at the Cairo International Fair. This is despite the fact that our people last year showed more than ever before their unanimous rejection of this hateful pavilion of those murderers, trampled upon their flat, and cornered them inside the pavilion while they were being protected by the Central Security Forces.

Israel is occupying Egyptian land, constantly trying to interfere in our country's internal affairs, and fighting us with drugs and prostitutes. If our government is committed to the Camp David agreement, the Egyptian people are not committed to Israel. If the government approves of the existence of an Israeli embassy hiding on the 19th and 20th floors of a building in Al-Jizah, the Egyptian people are not obliged to deal with the Israelis. If Egyptian ministers are obliged to meet with their Israeli opposite numbers, the Egyptian people are not obliged to do so. We thought that the government was showing a modicum of sense of responsibility when it banned Israel from participating in the book exhibition so that the Egyptian people's feelings would not be hurt. But it did not do the same in the case of the Cairo International Fair.

The government has now shown consideration for the serious situation that the country experienced a few days ago during the Central Security Forces' mutiny, when the Egyptian people adopted a solid stand out of their care for democracy and the legitimate struggle for improving the deteriorating standard of living.

The government is showing no consideration for what the country has suffered and whose effects are still evident, with the Armed Forces still carrying out the task of maintaining security in greater Cairo. It brings us this provocative pavilion of our enemies, the Zionist occupiers who never cease spying on Egypt as repeated incidents in Sinai have proved. Thus, it is the government that is exposing the country's stability to danger and lacking the minimum of nationalist feelings when it allows the opening of the Zionist pavilion in March 1986 when the nationalist masses locked it up in March 1985.

Those who want to move normalization on the official level to the popular level are playing with fire and threatening the country's security. Every Israeli moving on Egyptian territory in our view and the people's view is a war criminal whom the authorities should arrest. Those who allowed the opening of a pavilion for the Zionists are insulting the people's holiest of holies. Yet, they say that the people are the hero and deserve democracy.

Sons of Egypt and its people: Our word to you is: Boycott the Zionist pavilion; do not enter it; make them feel that they are strangers at the fair just as they are strangers on Malik bin Nabi Street (embassy location) and in the Israeli Regional Center on al-nil Street; and make the government feel ashamed of its attitude. Let Israel and those who weaken before it know that it would be easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than to have normal relations between Egypt and this contemptible entity.

God is great and long live the people.

Union of Socialist Labor Party Youth.

Israeli Policies Blamed for Hostile Atmosphere

PM251845 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 21 Mar 86 p 12

[Muhsin Muhammad article: "From the Heart"]

[Text] Acts of assassination, violence, murder, and bombing of installations occur everywhere, but nobody accuses the governments of the states concerned of failing to maintain security or claims that there is some malfunction or incompetence in protecting people's lives. It has happened in the United States, Britain, France, and most Arab states. We are not the only country to have had such incidents. Egyptians have been targets of such incidents at various levels, even at the highest levels. We are not saying this to justify one thing on the basis of another but are stating a known fact.

The state cannot protect every foreigner. In most cases it is the public who protect, guard, and defend foreigners. There was ample evidence of that when a Central Security group mutinied and attacked hotels. Only one Danish lady fell victim to these incidents, perhaps because she was not immediately aware of the danger and of the fire that swept the hotel she was in.

A foreign citizen is protected by the policies of his government and the atmosphere it creates, in addition to being protected by the Egyptian police. Terrorism, murder, assassination, and forcible expulsion of Arabs from their homes, lands, and countries were committed before and after Israel's birth. Terrorism against the Arabs is still the Israeli Government's internal policy, and that is in addition to pursuing Palestinians everywhere.

If Israel wants to provide additional protection for its citizens in Egypt — over and above what is provided by the Egyptian government, which is considerable — then it must create a new atmosphere that will induce some people to refrain from assassinating any Israelis and could prompt others to forewarn Israeli civilians whom they believe should not, at any rate, be held responsible for their government's actions.

It is clear that Israel has no intention of doing that and is not even trying. The time has come for Israel to change its policies in Lebanon and the occupied territories and to move toward real peace, not use peace as a trade or put pressure on the United States through U.S. Jews to halt and freeze every peace initiative.

No guard, however strong, can guarantee safety in a hostile atmosphere where Israeli actions are heard of and read about every day.

In the occupied territory Zafir al-Masri, the mayor, appointed by Israel, was assassinated, and Israel could not protect him despite the fact that the vast majority of the people there believed in his patriotism and Arabism — as reflected in their appearance at his funeral to express their true feelings.

It is Israel's duty to reconsider many of its political atititudes. It should also understand that when the Central Security incidents occurred there were no attempts on any Israelis. The Israeli Embassy lowered its flag because it knew how the Egyptian people and others living in Egypt really felt.

Further on Visit by Soviet Parliamentary Group

Talks on Electric Supply

NC251132 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 25 Mar (MENA) — Official talks between Egypt and the Soviet Union on technical cooperation in matters of electricity supply began this morning at the ministry of electricity and energy. The Egyptian representatives were led by Electricity Minister Engineer Mahir Abazah and the Soviet delegation by Anatoliy Mayorets, Soviet minister for the electrical equipment industry, who is currently visiting Cairo as a member of the Soviet parliamentary delegation.

The minister of electricity stated that the two parties examined the possibility of strengthening bilateral technical cooperation in the field of electricity. Discussions also dealt with the needs of those power generating projects, which were carried out with assistance from the Soviet Union and now require spare parts, equipment, and other necessary material for renovation purposes. Foremost among these projects is the Suez electricity generating plant, with a capacity of 100,000 kilowatts per hour.

The minister added that the two delegations also discussed requirements for the cables carrying and distributing the electricity generated by the High Dam power plant, particularly the cable between Cairo and the High Dam, which has a capacity of 1.7 million kilowatts per hour.

'Abd al-Hakim Meets Group

NC251324 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1255 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 25 Mar (MENA) — Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, speaker of the Consultative Council, received the USSR parliamentary delegation at his office today. The delegation, which is currently on a visit to Egypt, is led by Pavel Gilashvili, vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. During the meeting, views were exchanged on issues of international peace and the problems in the Middle East Region. Bilateral relations between Egypt and the USSR also were discussed.

Delegation Leaves Cairo

NC251910 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1745 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 25 Mar (MENA) — The Soviet parliamentary delegation led by Pavel Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and chairman of the Georgian Republic Supreme Soviet, left Cairo this evening at the completion of a 1-week visit to Egypt. During their stay, the delegation members met with President Husni Mubarak and presented him with a written message from the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. They also conveyed to him a verbal message from the Soviet leaders.

In a statement at Cairo airport prior to his departure, the head of the parliamentary delegation described the visit as successful and affirmed that its objectives had been achieved. He also expressed his gratitude for the hospitality that had been shown to him and to his accompanying delegation. He said that his meetings had been fruitful and profitable, particularly those with President Husni Mubarak and other senior Egyptian officials. These meetings have provided us with a fresh impression of the new Egyptian leadership, he added, particularly President Mubarak's determination to serve the cause of peace and the interests of his people. Despite the differences in doctrine, he noted that viewpoints had been identical and harmonious. He added: We both agree on the importance of world peace.

People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, who saw the Soviet delegation off at the airport, also said that the visit had been successful. He added that viewpoints had been exchanged and several topics of mutual interest had been discussed. He pointed out that Egypt is very concerned with its relations will all countries, particularly the superpowers. This stems from Egypt's interest in maintaining friendly relations with all peoples, and in serving common and just causes, he said. He noted that a number of international problems, including the Middle East issue, had been discussed with members of the delegation.

Economy Minister Abu 'Ali Leaves for USSR Visit

NC251828 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1704 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 25 Mar (MENA) — The members of a delegation led by Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali, minister of economy and foreign trade, left Cairo for Moscow this evening on a 6-day visit. In a predeparture statement, Abu 'Ali said the purpose of the trip was to conclude and sign a bilateral trade protocol for 1986. The negotiations that began last summer will be resumed during the visit, as scheduled.

Ba'th Party, LCY Officials Begin Talks in Baghdad

JN251459 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1415 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 25 Mar (INA) — Talks between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party led by Na'im Haddad, member of the Party's National Command, and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] led by Hamidja Pozderac, member of the LCY Central Committee, began here today. The talks dealt with ways to promote fruitful cooperation between the two friendly parties. The two sides also comprehensively reviewed various Arab and international issues, in addition to developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

Kuwaiti National Assembly Delegation Arrives

JN260711 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2125 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Mar (INA) — Several members of the Kuwaiti National Assembly arrived here tonight. They are: Faysal al-Sa'igh, Ahmad al-Shuray'an, Nasir al-Binay, Sa'd Tami Sa'd, Hadi Hayif, and 'Ali 'Abdallah al-Khalaf al-Sa'id.

Sa'd Tami Sa'd told INA that the purpose of the visit is to express solidarity with the Iraqi people in their heroic stand and just battle against the Iranian invaders.

Sa'd added that the Kuwaiti people are proud of the Iraqi Armed Forces' brave and courageous defense of the Arab nation's honor and sovereignty against the new Iranian invasion and wish the Iraqi people under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn final victory over the Iranian aggressors.

The Kuwaiti delegation was met on arrival by Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, chairman of the Iraqi National Assembly's Arab and International Relations Committee.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

8 Iranian Officials Killed on Front

JN251941 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] INA learned today that eight Iranian Army and Khomeyni Guard officials were killed by the brave Iraqis in the VII Army Corps sector. These Iranian officials are: Mohammad Reza Khanka, officer in charge of operations of the 27th Division; Mohammad Najad Ghaffar, officer in charge of the administrative affairs of the 7th Division; Mohammad Asadi Najad, a Marine official; Bord Azizi, a Khomeyni ideological guidance official; Javad Dal Adhar, officer in charge of operations of the 17th Division; Ahmed Rad Mard Qadiri, officer in charge of the Khomeyni Guards' administrative affairs for the Marines; Mohsen Bolendian, officer in charge of medical affairs of the 17th Division; and Gholam Reza Sultan, one of Khomeyni's mullahs.

INA has also learned that Seyyed Zadeh, the representative of the Kermanshah Province of the so-called Islamic Majlis, has revealed in one of his private conversations the deterioration in the situation of Iranians on the front because of the insufficient number of volunteers and their flight. The gravity of the Iranian enemy's situation prompted the Khomeyni regime to decide to dispatch groups of Khomeyni Guards and police units from the cites to the battlefield in a desperate attempt to tackle the deteriorating morale of the besieged Iranians.

It has been conclusively confirmed that the Iranian enemy's heavy losses in the VII Army Corps was one of the causes for the deterioration of the enemy's morale.

Spokesman Reports Moshk Camp Raid

JN261126 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1117 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To inflict further losses on the aggressor regime and to pursue it on its land, our brave Air Force planes carried out a devastating raid against the Moshk camp at 0817 (0517 GMT] today, inflicting on the enemy heavy losses in life, equipment, and ammunition depots. Our planes then safely returned to base, praise be to God.

[Dated] 26 March 1986

Planes Attack Troop Concentrations

JN261228 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Mar (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes dealt concentrated blows to Iranian troop concentrations and military hardware in the area opposite Panjwin in the northern sector this morning. A military spokesman told INA that the targets hit include 30 vehicles; 11 hideouts, including 6 large enough for military hardware and weapons; several personnel positions; several ammunition dumps; and some 30 to 35 caravans.

The spokesman said that the concentrated blows transformed the hit targets into debris and that the planes safely returned to base.

Combat Activities Updated

JN251354 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The heroic Air Force eagles and helicopter knights have carried out 18,468 combat missions since the beginning of the treacherous Iranian aggression against Al-Faw until last night. This was announced by a military source to the INA team in the southern sector who said that our fighter and bomber planes carried out 10,987 combat missions during that period. Our helicopters carried out 7,515 missions. The source affirmed that the enemy forces were devastated as a result of these successful air missions which included the aggressors' concentrations, positions, armored vehicles, ammunition dumps, supply routes, and bridges.

The source said that enemy planes which were downed by our ground defenses and Air Force planes since 10 February total 21 planes; 10 fighter planes, 9 helicopters, and 2 military transport planes.

The team said that the formations of the heroic Al-Rashid and northern columns continued their combat activities against the besieged Iranian enemy forces in the deadly Al-Faw triangle. It said that our formations' operations are proceeding in accordance with the plan defined for them by the General Command of the Armed Forces with splendid air and artillery support in order to annihilate the enemy forces and to purge the land from the filth of aggressors.

Citing a military source in the VII Army Corps sector, the team adds that the Iranian enemy is daily sustaining heavy losses in life and equipment on the two sides of the Shatt al-'Arab. The source pointed out that in daring night raids the day before yesterday, the northern column units succeeded in destroying nine enemy tanks, a number of vehicles, armored cars, and positions as well as killing a great number of enemy personnel.

Communique No 2,162

JN251750 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,162 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 March 1986]

[Excerpt] The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. On the VII Army Corps front: The valiant Al-Rashid and northern columns continued to inflict massive losses on the aggressor forces by directing barrages of fire at enemy positions all night long yesterday and today. Their fire was supported by concentrated and continuous strikes delivered by our Air Force, Army helicopter gunships, artillery, and naval forces. The lightning raids the northern column carried out on enemy positions two nights ago resulted in destroying nine infantry positions, four tanks, five 106-mm guns, and two armored personnel carriers, and in setting several ammunition dumps on fire.

2. Our Air Force today continued to deliver violent strikes against the enemies, destroying their remnants, equipment, and weapons in 48 combat missions after which the eagles returned safely to base, praised be God.

3. The valiant cavaliers of the helicopter gunships carried out 45 combat sorties against enemy troop concentrations, equipment, and weaponry, inflicting substantial losses. They then returned safely to base, praised be God.

4. Our units in the I Army Corps northern sector destroyed one tubular launcher, killed six enemy soldiers, and seized the following weapons: a) five RPG-7 launchers; b) four Strella launchers; c) 15 GC rifles; d) one DSHK machinegun; e) one medium-caliber machinegun; f) one 60-mm mortar; g) six RPK machineguns and a quantity of ammunition and equipment.

5. The Syrian regime, which sold the Golan, sabotaged Lebanon, and conspired against the Palestine question and the Palestinian armed struggle, is complementing its disgraceful actions by supplying arms to the racist Iranian regime which harbors ambitions against Arab territory and which plots against the nation's progress. One of our patrols in the V Army Corps sector found crates of DSHK machinegun ammunition of Syrian origin.

Let the Syrian rulers be disgraced for their vile alliance with the Zionist entity and the regime of charlatans in Iran against the Arab nation which is waging in this part of the homeland a most honorable epic for the noblest of aims. Nevertheless, Iraq, which is gaining support from the nation's hopes and energies, will crush with the feet of its sons all this baseness and vileness. The Arab nation will continue to shine radiantly thanks to the struggle of its righteous sons.

6. The criminal enemy forces shelled Biyarah and Khurmal with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 March 1986

Prince Hasan Opens Symposium on Iraq-Iran War

JN251502 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Amman — Deputizing for His Majesty King Husayn, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan inaugurated the international symposium to stop the war between Iraq and Iran and to establish peace between the two countries held under the slogan no to war, yes to peace at the Cultural Palace at the Husayn Youth City this morning. His highness delivered a speech conveying His Majesty King Husayn's greetings to participants in the symposium and his majesty's hopes for success in serving the Arab nation's objective of stopping the war between Iraq and Iran and establishing peace between the two neighboring countries in order to spare the blood of Arabs and Muslims and safeguard the region's stability and security.

His Highness Prince Hasan affirmed that Jordan's commitment to support fraternal Iraq is a commitment to Arab charters, the Arab League Charter, and the necessity of Arab solidarity. He said: We call for solidarity and extending support to any Arab country subjected to aggression. His highness said: The armed conflict between Iraq and Iran is the most tragic conflict in our region. This is so not only because it causes heavy human and material losses, opens doors for threatening the regional security of all the Gulf states, and offers wide possibilites for foreign intervention, but also because the tragic nature of the conflict emanates from the futility of this conflict and from the great illusion which obsesses one of the sides, which is Iran.

His highness the crown prince added: Since the eruption of the war, serious efforts to end it have not ceased. Arab, Islamic, regional, and international efforts were exerted to stop this war. Fraternal Iraq responded to these efforts constructively because Iraq seeks justice and it is legally right. It does not fear dialogue as its victorious army has proved it does not fear fire. However, these efforts were met by the Iranian leadership with a deaf ear. His highness said: While standing alongside fraternal Iraq, we beseech God to guide the Iranian leadership to follow the path of prudence and wisdom and not to continue to insist on one of its great illusions — namely, the illusion of exporting its revolution to neighboring countries. He affirmed that our standing alongside Iraq whose land is subjected to aggression is a stand against aggression and not a stand against the Iranian people. Our stand on Iraq, when Iran announced its impossible conditions to end the war, is a stand against the imposition of hegemony irrespective of its source. Representatives from international and regional organizations and a number of international bodies representing public opinion participate in this symposium.

Reportage on Reaction to U.S. Action Toward Libya

SAWT AL-SHA'B Commentary

JN260757 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 26 Mar 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Aggression, Land, and Commitment"]

[Text] It may not be a coincidence for the U.S. attack on Libyan territory to be timed with the Arab League Council meeting in Tunis, because this development adds a new dimension to the current Arab reality which is afflicted by division, weakness, and failure to honor pan-Arab commitments.

It may not also be a coincidence for the attack to be timed with the escalating secessionist rebel movement in Sudan and the attempts to withhold aid and assistance to that Arab country in its effort to deal with this conspiratorial secessionist movement against the unity of its territory and people.

Furthermore, it may not be a coincidence for the attack to be timed with the international symposium for establishing peace between Iraq and Iran which began its work in Amman yesterday to divert people's attention from this symposium, which has begun to reveal certain facts and the stands that opened the doors of the Arab region to the greedy, tamperers, and intruders.

The events and issues of the Arab region are all linked to the imperialist onslaught that is being directed against the Arab homeland's three main fronts — Palestine, Iraq, and Sudan — by parties most hostile to the nation and its issues.

Perhaps what is new in the recent development represented by the U.S. attack on Libyan territory and sovereignty is that it serves as a lesson to those people who believe that they are safe as long as they remain outside the circle of joint Arab action and disregard the indivisibility of pan-Arab security.

Let us hope that those people have now learned their lesson now that all the Arabs, motivated by their commitment to the honor and sovereignty of Arab territory, have condemned the U.S. attack on Libyan territory despite those people's action in humbling this very Arab honor by siding with another aggressor on Arab territory and security on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

Arab honor, security, and territorial integrity as well as the Arab individual are all an indivisible whole and a principle that cannot be compromised by anyone.

AL-DUSTUR on 'Flagrant Agression'

JN260853 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 26 Mar 86 pp 1, 25

[Editorial: "Premeditated Aggression"]

[Text] In a flagrant challenge to the feelings of the Arab masses and within the framework of an unprecedented action in the international arena, the United States has carried out a direct military aggression against the fraternal Libyan people, thus violating international law and the UN Charter and jeopardizing world peace and security.

What took place in the Gulf of Sidra and on the Libyan coast was not coincidental nor was the United States taken by surprise. This was a premeditated act which the U.S. Administration has sought to carry out for several months and for which it has mobilized scores of warships and aircraft carriers, dispatching them to the area from various locations as part of a plan which has been largely described as a provocative act by a big state against a small one. In fact, the United States, which unsuccessfully attempted to instigate its European allies to support it in imposing economic measures against Libya, escalated its military threats to punish Libya in an attempt to make up for its failure in calling, as a leading Western power, for besieging the Libyan people and starving them out.

Therefore, the U.S. action in the Gulf of Sidra against the Libyan territory can only be viewed as flagrant premeditated aggression. The United States undertook this aggression at a time when the Arab foreign ministers are holding their regular Arab League Council meeting, in an attempt to show further indifference to this nation which views any foreign aggression against any of its states as direct aggression against it.

We believe that this U.S. policy lacks wisdom and is far from the spirit of this age, its values, principles, and various laws. We also believe that those who adopt this policy will only reap isolation, failure, and confusion, and that they will be dragged into a wide circle of mutual violence which will sow deep hostility toward the United States and its interests in the region.

The U.S. aggression against Libya, just as any foreign aggression against any other Arab state, is today, more than ever before, an issue which concerns all the Arabs and which poses very serious questions for them. It has become clear that what encouraged the Americans to carry out this condemned action, and before them the Israelis and the Iranians, is the Arab estrangement and the weak commitment to this nation's charters and principles. We strongly call on the Arabs to learn a lesson from this and to redress the erroneous stand in which all the Arabs are involved.

AL-RA'Y Reacts to Moroccan King's Statement

JN251113 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
25 Mar 86 pp 1, 22

[Editorial: "The Moroccan Monarch's Statement"]

[Text] The Moroccan monarch's statement to Kuwaiti *AL-SIYASAH* raises certain questions and issues. Before discussing these issues and questions, we should ask whether these remarks were made spontaneously and whether they can be interpreted in some other way, or perhaps they are leading in a direction which experience has proven will not bring any results or lead to any logical end which would achieve justice and rights and fulfill hopes.

The Moroccan monarch said the Arabs had not taken the time to directly acquaint themselves with the Israeli viewpoint, and that everything reaching them was carried by mediators. The Moroccan monarch sees this as a mistake by the Arabs, and pan-Arab impotence, or something similar. The fact is that His Majesty King Hassan II realizes, as we realize, and knows, as we know, that there is nothing that we do not know about the Zionist enemy, whether about its fascist nature or its expansionist ideas that are full of rancor and hatred, not only to all that is Arab but also to all that is non-Zionist. We do not know what more the Moroccan monarch wants us to know about Zionism and its tool which is represented by the Israeli military institution? What secret or secrets could be carried to us by mediators —secrets that can only be revealed by direct Arab-Israeli contacts, on the level of an Arab head of state who would be chosen by the Arab leaders, in order to convey the Israeli viewpoint which so far is not known to us and which we have not been acquainted with through mediators?

The Israeli institution does not respect international legitimacy and turns its back on UN resolutions. It is professional in carrying out aggressions and expansions and, through its military supremacy, attacks our cities, hijacks planes, besieges camps, and shells schools and places of worship. Such an institution has nothing to conceal or to tell us about through mediators. Zionism, which was condemned by the international community as being a racial movement, has presented itself to this community as an ideological, political, economic, and military force that has no respect for values and principles, and which does not hesitate to commit any crime at any time, whether on land, at sea or in the air. Has the international community's condemnation of this racial movement come as a result of lack of information or rejection of direct contacts to discuss viewpoints? We are certain this is not the case.

The Moroccan monarch proposed that an Arab envoy should carry with him the Fes summit resolutions in order to hear the Israelis' views directly and without mediators. However, the whole world, including the Moroccan monarch knows that the Zionist enemy proves, through practice, that it rejects to withdraw from Arab territories and stresses that Jerusalem is Israel's eternal capital and that the Palestinian people have no rights. Can the meeting which the Moroccan monarch proposed change anything in the racial Torah Israeli constants whether regarding the Arabism of Palestine and its people's rights or concerning Jerusalem, the great city and the capital of Arabs and Muslims?

We reiterate that the experience of fraternal Egypt and Lebanon in dealing directly with the enemy and in acquainting themselves with its viewpoint without mediators, has proved this Zionist entity's arrogance and hostility.

Moreover, the call for holding an international conference under UN auspices within the framework of full respect for the UN principles and resolutions, is the only call which deserves to be followed up. At such a conference, mediators will become witnesses. We do not believe that the Zionist enemy's plans and intentions will change with regard to the search for justice, peace, and right in this region.

Still, we have one final remark about the Moroccan monarch's remarks which we do not think he anticipated, namely, these remarks show the Arabs as being responsible for the failure of peace efforts and for the possibilities of wars, conflagration, and instability in the region, because we did not go to our enemy in order to directly acquaint ourselves with its views and intentions. The fact is that our enemy is continuously speaking about its intentions, and in fact, is practicing them through its attempts to change the constants of the cause and logic and to impose a fait accompli which the Arabs must accept so as to achieve the peace the enemy wants.

Oil Exploration Agreement Signed With AMOCO

JN261010 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 26 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] Amman *(JORDAN TIMES)* — Jordan on Tuesday signed a profit-sharing agreement with a major American company for oil exploration in certain parts of the Kingdom.

Under the agreement, the American oil company AMOCO will explore for oil in the Jordan Valley and al-Azraq regions. Hamzah and Wadi Rahel areas, were excluded from the agreement which was signed by Minister of Energy Hisham al-Khatib on the Jordanian side and on the American side by Mr Peter Jordan, the company's vice president for operations in the Middle East and Africa, the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY, PETRA, said.

The exploring company will be bound to conduct geological, geophysical and geochemical field studies during the seven-and-a-half-year agreement. It will also dig five exploratory wells.

The Natural Resources authority has no future programmes for oil exploration in the regions included in the agreement.

Agreement on Oil Shale Study Signed With W. Germany

JN251200 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 25 Mar 86 p 3

[Text] Amman (PETRA) — West Germany will conduct tests on samples of oil shale found at Al-Lajjun in southern Jordan and will also help conduct a feasibility study on shale oil production, according to an agreement signed in Amman Monday. The agreement is the second of its kind between the two countries and entails conducting tests on 100 tonnes of oil shale from Al-Lajjun which has already been shipped to West Germany.

West Germany will also study the best and most effective means of exploiting the oil shale and will prepare designs for a station that will be used in the process of extracting oil from shale. The feasibility study will last 12 months and will cost nearly Jd 600,000 to be paid by the natural Resources Authority (NRA) in conjunction with West German Government and a consortium of German companies helping in the study, according to the agreement.

The agreement was signed on behalf of NRA by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham al-Khatib and by a representative of the West German consortium.

Minister Al-Huss Comments on Libyan-U.S. Conflict

NC251745 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Commenting on recent developments in the Gulf of Sidra, Dr Salim al-Huss, minister of labor and education, said the following this evening: The United States is wagging a losing war. I cannot imagine how a superpower can force itself into the Gulf of Sidra and still remain a superpower. However, hard it tries to depict the situation to the contrary, the fact remains that it is acting from the position of an aggressor.

'Aggression' Directed at Arabs

NC251330 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] In a statement issued today, the Grouping of Popular Committees and Leagues in Lebanon said that the U.S. aggression against Libya is actually directed against the Arab nation and all the forces of freedom and peace in the world. This agression is a flagrant return of U.S. policy to the era of direct imperialist intervention. The Grouping called for historic initiatives to formulate a unified Arab position. This position would sidestep all differences and conflicts and would mobilize the entire Arab nation from the ocean to the Gulf to foil the aggression and open the way for Arab unity so as to salvage the Arab cause from its present state of deterioration and collapse.

Anonymous Caller Warns About Collett Health

NC251821 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1730 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has received a telephone call from an anonymous person who read a statement on behalf of the Revolutionary Organization of Socialist Muslims [al-munazzamah al-thawriyah li al-muslimin al-ishtrakiyin]. According to the caller, this group has claimed responsibility for holding British citizen Alec Collett. The caller also said that the organization had entrusted Mustafa Sa'd with presenting its demands to the UK ambassador in Beirut. He warned that Collett's life is in extreme danger because he is suffering from a grave kidney disorder.

The caller has asked that UK authorities send ten dialysis machines, along with several kinds of medication, by air. These should then be given to Mustafa Sa'd, who will distribute them to ten hospitals in the south. The caller affirmed that one of these machines will be used to treat Collett.

Kidnappers End UK 'Contacts'

NC260621 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0545 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The Revolutionary Organization of Socialist Muslims, which claimed responsibility for kidnapping British journalist Alec Collett a year ago, has announced that it halted direct contacts with all UK Government representatives, including the ambassador in Lebanon. The organization added that Collett's life is in grave danger.

Release of French Hostages Expected 'Very Soon'

NC261034 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1015 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] In a press statement today, 'Umaran Adham, the special envoy of French President Francois Mitterrand, has asserted that the release of the French hostages is expected very soon. He added that the hostages may be released within the next few days.

Casualties Reported in East Beirut Explosions

Mother, Child Wounded

NC260650 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] An explosive device went off this morning in a second-floor apartment in the six-story Al-Kuwayti Building in the Al-Tahwitah-Furn al-Shubbak area. The explosion created small cracks in the building's walls and wounded a mother and her child.

15 Casualties in Al-Ashrafiyah

NC260917 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0845 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] According to preliminary reports, an explosion took place at 1015 on Bishop Nasrallah Street, in the Fassuh area of Al-Ashrafiyah, resulting in 15 casualties. The injured were rushed to hospitals. Material losses are extensive and a number of fires have broken out in the area. Fire brigade, civil defense, and Red Cross teams are conducting first aid operations and removing the rubble.

Details of Al-Ashrafiyah Blast

NC260942 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpts] There were more than 30 casualties in an explosion that took place in the Fassuh area of Al-Ashrafiyah at 1015 today. The explosion was caused by a booby-trapped car, rigged with a large quantity of explosives. According to preliminary reports, the car was a mini-Cooper. Cars, shops, and surrounding buildings suffered extensive damage. Ambulances, fire engines, and civil defense cars rushed to the scene, where rescue operations are underway. Citizens are requested not to go to the area so as to facilitate rescue operations. The charge was estimated at 150 kg of explosives. It left a crater 1.5 meters deep and 2.5 meters wide.

Fighting on Mountain Combat Lines Continues

Situation 'Extremely Tense'

NC251227 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Despite two cease-fire agreements, the situation on the mountain combat lines remains extremely tense. Fighting resumed on the Bsaba-Al-Ma'rufiyah line at 1230. Shells fell on Dayr Qubil, 'Ayn 'Nub, and Shimlan. The Al-Shuwayfat-Kafr Shima combat line came under fire from tank guns at 1250, and at 1300 the Ra's al-Jabal line was subjected to rocket attack. Tension also prevails on the Al-'Ayrun and Al-Dawwar lines in upper Al-Matn. Sporadic rocket fire is being directed at these lines.

Shelling Kills 2, Wounds 15

NC261229 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The intensity of the random shelling on the northern and upper Al-Matn combat lines eased after 1230 today, as a result of the commanders intensive contacts. Two people were killed and 15 others were wounded in this shelling.

Several Areas Under Rocket Fire

NC260850 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0815 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Since 0915 today, the Brummana, B'abdat, and Dahr al-Sawwan areas have been coming under fire from the rocket launchers in Qirnayil, Hammana, 'Aynturah al-Matn, Falugha, and Al-Khalwat. According to security reports, more than 60 122-mm Grad rockets fell on these residential areas before 1000 today. We learned a short while ago that Rumiyah and Brummana came under fire from Dayr al-Harf.

Cease-Fire Ineffective

NC261114 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1045 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpts] According to the latest security reports, 60-mm, 130-mm, and 140-mm mortar shelling is continuing against the areas of Bikfayya, Mar Musa, Al-Zighrin, Al-Duwwar, 'Ayn al-Tuffahah, Himlaya, and Ba'abdat. A cease-fire was supposed to take effect at 1200; however, leftist gunmen have not yet adhered to it. Violent clashes, involving the use of rockets and artillery, are also currently raging along the Bsaba-al-Ma'rufiyah combat line in the mountain. Shelling of the coast and the central Al-Matn area has resulted in a number of casualties.

Clashes Reported on Beirut Combat Lines

NC251942 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Clashes involving the use of various types of weapons, including mortars and rockets, are now taking place along the Sodeco, Ra's al-Nab', and Bisharah al-Khuri combat lines. It has been reported that the Sha'lani building in the Al-Barbir area has been hit by two tank shells following an exchange of rocket fire along the Al-Barbir-Museum combat line. A guarded calm now prevails in Beirut's southern suburb, broken only by intermittent sniper fire.

U.S. Embassy Denies Group's Claim of Attack

NC252105 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
2046 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] A statement was distributed in West Beirut this evening in the name of an organization calling itself the Vanguard of the Arab Revolutionary Forces [Tali'at al-qiwa al-thawriyah al-'arabiyah]. The declaration notes that the group claims responsibility for shooting a number of rockets at the U.S. Embassy building in 'Awkar. According to the statement, this was done in retaliation for what was described as U.S. aggression against Libya. The U.S. Embassy has denied that its installations have been hit, or that any projectiles have fallen nearby.

Gunmen Steal UN-Owned Car in West Beirut

NC251805 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1645 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Four gunmen have intercepted and stolen a car driven by Milad al-Bustati in the Suq al-Khudar section of West Beirut. The vehicle is a brown Volkswagen with UN diplomatic license plate No 190/22.

Further Reports on Fighting in South

Resistance Hits Israeli Settlements

NC251816 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Lebanese National Resistance fighters attacked an enemy positinon in Al-Tayyibah this evening and eyewitnesses said a fire broke out there. Meanwhile, the occupation forces have freed one of their prisoners, Husayn 'Ali Mar'i Kurani.

At midnight last night, members of the National Resistance attacked the settlements of Menora and Qiryat Shemona in the occupied Arab territories with 107-mm rockets in retaliation for the murderous act of aggression against Al-Nabatiyah.

In a similar development, the martyr 'izz al-Din al-Tafshan group of the Lebanese National Resistance bombarded the settlement of Metulla with Katyushas for a second time at dawn today. A number of enemy vehicles, including a Jeep, were hit.

Palestinians Deploy Forces

NC251939 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Sources close to the observers unit reported this evening that the situation in and around the Burj al-Barajinah camp has become quite tense after large numbers of Palestinian gunmen deployed on Al-'Adnan and Farahat streets. The sources noted that Amal has brought rocket launchers into Al-Raml Al-'Ali, and on to the airport road and Al-Sayyad Street in Burj al-Barajinah. Hamid 'Awwad and Hasan al-Siba'i are responsible for these weapons.

Four trucks carrying shells for 107- and 130-mm artillery pieces were seen leaving the Al-Hajj Hasan Salim al-'Adnan Building on 'Ayn al-Dilbi Street in Burj al-Barajinah a short while ago. This ammunition will be distributed in Al-Raml al-'Ali and on the airport road for later shipment to specific emplacements.

Clashes Near Shatila Camp, Sidon

NC252030 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] There was some machinegun fire inside the Shatila camp at approximately 2030, which developed into fighting with small- and medium-caliber weapons 15 minutes later. This followed a security incident involving a number of gunmen in Farhat. The camps security Coordination Committee has contacted those concerned in order to stop the clashes and restore calm.

At the same time, the front east of Sidon is noticeably tense. Intermittent fighting between members of the Popular Liberation Army and agent Lahd's militia has been reported along the Lib'a, 'Ayn al-Mir and Kafr Falus combat lines.

Sabra Camp Clashes Ease

NC252123 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
2045 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Unidentified gunmen shot and wounded two Palestinians in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp in the south this evening. The two are Samir Dahir and Muhammad Talib Zaydan. Meanwhile, a number of armed individuals staged a hit-and-run attack on one of Junblatt's positions in the Al-Hamra section of West Beirut. The results are not yet known.

In another development, the fighting between Amal and Palestinian gunmen in the Sabra camp eased a short while ago after several attempts by the Coordination Committee to contain the clashes.

Syrian Troops Explore Duhur al-Shuwayr Area

NC261306 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] A Voice of Lebanon correspondent has learned that a number of Syrian officers explored the Duhur al-Shuwayr area yesterday, and established a center in the periphery of (?Qasr al-Mukarzil). Our correspondent has also noted about 20 tanks moving between Bulunya, Duhur al-Shuwayr, and Al-Khinsharah. Some are concerned over a tendency to escalate the situation and to intensify the shelling of residential areas.

Khaddam Returns With Al-Qadhdhafi Message

JN251822 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus this evening following a brief working visit to the Libyan Arab Jamairiyah where he met with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, and conveyed to him a message from President Hafiz al-Asad dealing with the U.S. aggression against the Jamahiriyah and Syria's stand with all its resources alongside the Jamahiriyah in confronting this aggressive provocation, which is directed at the entire Arab nation and constitutes a dangerous threat to world peace and security.

The tense situation resulting from the U.S. aggressive provocative acts and ways to confront them were discussed. Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi asked 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam to convey a reply message to President Hafiz al-Asad. Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud and Munir Barikhan, head of the Syrian Arab relations office in Tripoli, attended the meeting.

The vice president arrived in Tripoli this morning and was received by Maj 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, the head of the Syrian Arab relations office, and the office staff.

'Source' Condemns U.S. 'Aggression' Against Libya

JN251801 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] A responsible source has stated the following: The recent U.S. military aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah is conclusive evidence of the Washington administration's determination to continue to carry out its policies aimed at imposing its influence and hegemony in the world. While strongly condemning this brutal imperialist aggression and considering it direct aggression against it and the Arab nation and a threat to the security and safety of all peoples loving freedom and peace, Syria affirms its complete solidarity and firm stand alongside the people and Government of the Libyan Jamahiriyah. At the same time, Syria warns the United States of the gravity of this foolhardy policy exposing international peace and security to the gravest dangers.

These aggressive acts, which come after numerous provocations, are in terms of trend and objectives a link in the series of acts and practices which U.S. imperialism is carrying out with the aim of striking at Arab steadfast forces and distracting world public opinion from what Israel is planning against the Arab nation.

The Syrian Arab Republic calls on Arab and friendly governments and all peace-loving peoples to stand alongside the Libyan Arab people with all their resources to confront this imperialist aggression.

Radio on U.S. Objectives

JN251806 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Palestine Broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brother strugglers, U.S. Navy planes yesterday raided Libyan targets in the Libyan Gulf of Sidra. The Arab citizen did not need and will not need any evidence that U.S. imperialism is using premediatated aggression against the Arab nation. Nevertheless, the United States provided this dangerous aggressive evidence last night. The Arab citizen everywhere knows the main objectives of the U.S.-Israeli plan in the Arab homeland, particularly the two objectives of this plan which have been put in practice by the United States. These two objectives are: First, liquidating the Palestine question in accordance with U.S.-Israeli terms, that is, Judaizing all of Arab Palestine along with other Arab territories that Israel wants; and second, imposing absolute U.S. hegemony on the Middle East, particularly the Arab homeland, some of whose countries are, with the help of God and the determination of the Arab people, still inaccessible to this U.S. hegemony.

As for the first U.S. objective, which is the liquidation of the Palestine question, it requires striking at Arab Syria, which is seeking strategic parity under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad. This also requires striking at all Arab nationalist forces rallying around Arab Syria on the road to regaining the Palestinian national rights and the occupied Arab territory. The United States tries to achieve this objective indirectly, that is, through the main U.S. base in the Middle East, Israel. This is in addition to U.S. imperialism's pressures on Syria in many Arab arenas. This is the U.S. plan to liquidate the Palestine question.

As for the imposition of U.S. hegemony on the Arab homeland, this objective requires striking at Arab Syria and the Libyan Jamahiriyah at the same time. This is what the United States has actually begun to do with last night's air aggression against Libyan Arab targets. The question now is: Does not the United States realize the gravity of what it is doing? The answer is yes. It realizes it. However, the United States also realizes that it is now or never, that is, the United States wants to start its aggressive plan now because time is not on its side; it is on the side of the Arab masses. This time is not being wasted because Arab Syria is achieving strategic balance with the United States' main base, Israel. This, in addition to providing the means to liberate the occupied territory, means reducing the possibilities of U.S. hegemony, which also requires striking at the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The United States surely realizes the gravity of what it is doing. Perhaps the U.S. war secretary, Weinberger, is the one who said that the United States does not work in Libyan waters with closed eyes. The United States then realizes the reality of its practices. However, its realization is limited, narrow, and shortsighted. Although its eyes are not closed the United States has, according to Weinberger, covered them with a fabric made up of some Arab regimes. The United Sttes does not see the Arab people. More accurately, the United States does not seem to be aware of the fate of the U.S. presence in the Arab homeland, which will be decided by the Arab masses.

People's Assembly Condemns U.S.

JN251907 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The People's Assembly has condemned the United States' aggressive actions against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah as well as its aggressive provocations aimed at imposing hegemony over the Arab region and threatening the security and peace of the region and in the world. The People's Assembly held a session this evening under Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi. A number of ministers attended the session.

During the session, a number of Assembly members condemned the barbaric aggression launched against Libya by the United States as well as the reckless U.S. policy. They also stressed the support of Syria — leadership, people, and government — for the Libyan people's brave confrontation of the U.S. aggression and provocation. The Assembly agreed to send letters in this regard to Arab and international parliaments as well as to the Arab Parliamentary Union and the IPU.

Papers on U.S. 'Aggression'

JN260913 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Let the U.S. Aggression Become a Factor for Pan-Arab Incitement," *AL-BA'TH* says: As a matter of fact, the new U.S. aggression is not directed against the Libyan Jamahiriyah as much as it is directed against the Arab liberation movement. It is obvious that the U.S. scheme is primarily based on liquidating the Arab liberation movement, given that this movement which is continuously gaining momentum has effectively begun to threaten all U.S.-Zionist schemes against our Arabnhomeland. The best evidence of this is what took place in Lebanon. All the U.S. trends seeking to transform Lebanon into a U.S.-Israeli protectorate have been defeated. The new U.S. aggression also took place following Washington's realization that the continued enhancement of the Arab liberation movement means the containment and the toppling of all those who have wagered on the U.S. stand and those whose only concern has become satisfying U.S. policy, even if this takes place at the expense of their interests and their peoples. The Egyptian regime is a vivid example of this.

AL-BA'TH adds: With its new aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the U.S. Administration will be committing the same mistake it committed when it tried to destroy Lebanon and its national forces. Instead of attaining all that it sought to achieve, the U.S. Administration lost everything and the national forces have become the basic and influential forces in the Lebanese arena. They are the forces which have transformed southern Lebanon into a graveyard for the Israeli forces.

The Arab national forces, which reject the U.S. logic based on the principle of giving in to the fait accompli and to the will of the aggressor, will confront, as they did before, all the liquidatory attempts. The Libyan Jamahiriyah has the right to reply to any U.S. aggression and to ask the Arabs to support it in its battle, particularly that the hostile U.S. policy is not only directed agaisnt Libya but also against the entire Arab nation. The unwavering U.S. stand toward the Arab-Zionist conflict is practical evidence of what we say.

AL-BA'TH concludes: In any case, we believe that although the U.S. aggression has been accurately programmed it will fail completely because our Arab masses' determination to stand fast and fight is stronger by far than the sophisticated U.S. war machine.

Under the headline "Disappointment and Frustration Face the New U.S. Aggression," *AL-THAWRAH* says: The provocative acts initiated by the United States against Libya yesterday once again highlight the blatantly inimical nature of the U.S. policy in the region and its hostility toward the Arab nation, and its complete endorsement of the policy of terrorism and the protection of the aggressors. It is no longer a secret that the objectives of U.S. aggression are to inspire the forces of capitulation, give them new momentum, scare the forces of steadfastness and confrontation and force them to abandon their stands that are hostile to the Camp David accords and the policy of aggression and expansion, and to check the collapse of U.S. Middle East policy.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: That's why the United States now mobilizes its fleets east of the Mediterranean, escalates the frenzy of its aggression and the hysteria of war against Libya, and instructs Israel to threaten Syria. This is all taking place to save the capitulatory course and kindle the enthusiasm of its rusted tools, and spread terror and fear among those who oppose it. We must affirm in this respect that the language of threats and aggression will not rescue the Camp David course from the gloomy fate that awaits it in Egypt and the Arab homeland. The great Egyptian people have spoken their mind on the Camp David course and the Arab nation has said its final word on this conspiracy, and the death sentence was passed on this course and the regime which champions it in Egypt. The United States will not succeed in prolonging the life of this vicious colonialist conspiracy. The mobilization of fleets and sabre-rattling will not infuse life into the capitulatory course and its tools and will not scare the forces of Arab steadfastness, chief among which is militant Syria. Events will show that the course of steadfastness which has inflicted defeat on U.S. political plans will inevitably defeat the U.S. aggression. The United States will only suffer frustration and defeat.

Government Position Assessed on U.S.-Libya Conflict

TA251616 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel]

[Excerpts] Israel this morning hurried to welcome the actions of the U.S. task force near the Libyan coast, and was probably the first country to do so. The official announcements issued by the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry mainly emphasize the practical justification for the U.S. operation. However, in reading between the lines one surely feels the great deal of satisfaction reflected in the remarks of the decisionmakers in Jerusalem: The United States is finally acting upon old threats and launching a real operation against Al-Qadhdhafi's regime in Libya.

Last night Washington transmitted a report to Jerusalem via its embassy in Israel about the hostilities in the Gulf of Sidra and it seems that the two countries, which are bound by a strategic cooperation agreement, will continue to have this channel of information. Let us memtion that the U.S. pilots are now getting their first operational experience in fighting against Soviet SAM-5's, experience which will probably interest several elements in Israel, as well.

Finally, despite the overt Israeli support for the U.S. operation, political circles stress that Israel plays only the role of an observer in these recent developments . This is a pure Libyan-U.S. matter, we were told, and the desire to act against Al-Qadhdhafi stems, first and foremost, from a clear U.S. interest.

Peres Sees No Current Syrian Decision To Attack

TA251750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] This evening, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said he does not believe that there is a Syrian decision at this moment to attack Israel because Al-Asad is not certain that he can beat us. However, Mr Peres did say that he is not proposing that we get drawn into rhetorics and making threats on this matter. Mr Peres was speaking to authors and intellectuals at the Labor Party's Milo Club in Tel Aviv.

[Begin Peres recording] It is my belief that at this moment there is no Syrian decision to attack Israel. That is my belief. However, under no circumstances whatsoever would I rely on this belief, nor would I suggest that others rely on it. What I would suggest is that in the field itself we exhibit maximal alert. Your son, and other young people in the IDF, must be very alert and serious. In contrast to this, I would suggest that we do not enter into rhetorics which could work up emotions, that is, one person says something, so does another, this one replies, the other attacks, before anyone actually realizes [sentence as received]. Rhetoric creates strategy and therefore I am against threats, I am against floods of verbosity; I am in favor of maximal restraint, but also alertness. Why do I say that at this moment I believe Syria is not going to war? First, because of the economic situation I have described; second, because I believe that Al-Asad does not have the feeling of certainty that he can beat Israel. He is not stupid. He is not looking for a blow on the head. I also believe that at this moment the Russians will not push for a war. I must also point out that so far the Russian reaction to the Libyan affair has been very, very economical [last word in English] not only in acts, even in words. [end recording]

Peres Takes 'Positive' View of Hassan II Proposal

TA260759 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 26 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Dalya Shehori]

[Text] The Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem take a positive view of King Hassan II's initiative to bring about a meeting between an Arab leader and the Israeli prime minister to hear Israel's reaction to the FES plan.

The office of Prime Minister Shim'on Peres announced yesterday that "the prime minister has always welcomed and will continue to welcome any direct contact between us and Arab leaders."

The Foreign Ministry has not issued an official reaction to the Moroccan monarch's statements, but Foreign Ministry sources have said that Israel has always invited Arab leaders to direct negotiations without preconditions. This invitation still stands.

Egyptian Tabah Delegation Arrives; Differences Remain

TA260526 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The Egyptian delegation for talks with Israel arrived here last night. The talks covering the Tabah border dispute and bilateral relations are to resume today in Herzliyya. Israel Radio's political correspondent says there are basic disagreements over the question to be put to the arbitrator, who is to judge the Tabah case. There are also differences about arrangements to be made there after the case is decided. Foreign Ministry sources said these issues would have to be decided at the political level.

FRG To Commit 'Substantial' Funds to Mideast Plan

TA210827 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 21 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by Benny Morris]

[Text] West Germany has given Israel something approaching a commitment to contribute substantial funds to Prime Minister Peres's "Marshall Plan" for the Middle East, it has been learned. It is the first major Western industrial state to have done so."

A German statement of readiness to contribute was made by Chancellor Helmut Kohl during his meeting with Peres in Stockholm last weekend, where the two leaders attended the funeral of Sweden's assassinated Prime Minister Olof Palme.

Peres first proposed the plan during the visit to Jerusalem a fortnight ago of U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard

Murphy. Murphy reportedly liked what he heard and took the proposal back with him to Washington, where it is now being considered by top administration officials. The initial official American response is expected to be conveyed to Peres by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz when the prime minister visits Washington at the beginning of April.

Japanese and Italian leaders who came to Stockholm also reportedly expressed "interest" in Peres's idea, which the Prime Minister's Office regards as a complement to the diplomatic process rather than as a substitute for it. The essence of the plan is that the seven major Western industrial giants finance joint Israeli-Arab and inter-Arab development projects which would give the countries in the region a vested interest in peace and cooperation.

Arab Countries Secretly Sending Money For Mosque

TA230740 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Mar 86 p 6

[Report by Hayim Handwerker]

[Text] Some of the financial backing for the work currently being done on the Hasan Bakk Mosque on the dividing line between Tel Aviv and Yafo comes from Saudi Arabia and other Persian Gulf countries. This has been reported to the *HA'ARETZ* correspondent by Arab activists in Yafo.

They said the money is being transferred through liaison people in the West Bank, who maintain routine contact with these countries, to the board of guardians in Yafo which is responsible for the work of renovating the mosque. The authorities know about this, but they prefer to turn a blind eye because the PLO is not involved.

An establishment source keeping a close watch over what is happening in Yafo has confirmed that reports of this type have indeed reached him, but this is not being regarded as something negative because, according to the reports, the money comes from moderate countries.

Members of the board of guardians have signed a contract with the building contractor, who is doing the second stage of the renovation work on the Hasan Bakk Mosque, for a total sum of $180,000, although they only have $50,000, which comes from contributions and the allocation from the Ministry of Religious Affairs.

The chairman of the Yafo board of guardians, Ahmad (Fanjari), has denied that money has been received from Arab countries. According to our agreement with the government, he said, we are not allowed to accept money from abroad. We have managed to get this money from contributions from Israel. It is true that we have also received money from people in the West Bank, but this is not from other countries.

Dr Nisim Dana, the director of the Ministry of Religious Affairs Minorities Division, reacted by saying that the issue has been studied by the authorities and it was found that there is nothing wrong with the project's sources of financial backing. Dana refused to comment on the question of whether the money comes from Arab countries.

It will be noted that about 3 years ago the former chairman of the board of guardians, 'Abd (Kabub), appealed in a radio broadcast to Arab countries with a request that they contribute toward the renovation of the mosque.

ASL Soldiers Kill Terrorist After Katyusha Firing

TA251016 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] A terrorist who fired a katyusha rocket at the security zone in southern Lebanon was killed by army of southern Lebanon [ASL] soldiers last night. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that after the rocket was fired, soldiers manning ASL posts opened fire. In searches conducted this morning the katyusha launcher was found with the body of the terrorist near by. Our correspondent notes that near the launcher there were several booby-trapped charges, apparently meant to hit the searching forces.

Katyushas Fired at Galilee as Amal Revenge

TA251515 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] This morning, several katyusha rockets fell on the Galilee panhandle. There are no casualties, nor is there any damage. The security forces have searched the area.

The commander of the Amal organization in southern Lebanon, Mahmud Faqih, has said that his personnel fired the katyusha rockets at Israel as revenge for the shelling of Al-Nabatiyah yesterday by members of the army of southern Lebanon. Three people were killed in the shelling and dozens were wounded.

IDF Demands Tighter Control of ASL

TA251236 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] IDF liaison officers in southern Lebanon demand that the commander of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] tighten his control over his officers after they opened fire on Shi'ite villages north of the security zone on several occasions without his permission. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht notes that over the last few months there have been several such incidents which were initiated by officers in the field. In yesterday's shelling of the Al-Nabatiyah market, 3 people were killed and 24 were wounded. A similar incident occurred a month ago when the city of Tyre was shelled. General Lahd, the commander of the ASL, clarified that he will court-martial ASL officers who violate the orders on opening fire.

Security Forces Uncover Fatah-linked Terrorists

TA251520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The security forces and the Sharon District police have uncovered a large terrorist squad linked to the Fatah organization, whose members are accused of attempted attack and the stockpiling of weapons and explosive materiel.

Our correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that this involves dozens of youths living in the Small Triangle and Galilee. Rifles, submachine guns, pistols, explosive charges, and detonators were found in their possession.

Charge sheets have been issued against seven of them by the military court in Lod. The squad members also had connections with terrorists in Judaea and Samaria. Among other things, they are attributed with athe attempt to place an explosive charge in the Tel Aviv central bus Station 2 years ago and other attempts to place explosive charges in private homes in Petah Tiqva and Bene Beraq. The squad members also tried to set an ambush for a passenger bus that passes through the trans-Samarian highway near Kafr Qasim.

Radio Cites Amal on Arrests of 'Arafat Followers

TA251525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The Shi'ite Amal militia says it is holding three members of Yasir 'Arafat's Fatah organization. Fatah had claimed that the three were killed in an attempt to cross into Israel last week. Amal officials said the three Palestinians were arrested for questioning by Amal in Lebanon's southern port of Tyre. A Fatah communique had claimed that four Israeli soldiers were also killed in the alleged raid, but Israeli military sources said there was no such attack last Friday.

OAU Condemns U.S. For 'Hostilities' With Libya

AB261643 Paris AFP in English 1557 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Addis Ababa, March 26 (AFP) — The Organization of African Unity (OAU) expressed "deep concern" on Wednesday over what it called the "unequal hostilities" between the United States and Libya in the Gulf of Sidra, and said it "deplored" Washington's attitude in the conflict.

In a statement released at its headquarters here, the pan-African body said it "deplores the attitude of the United States of America and urges it, as a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, to exercise restraint."

Washington should "refrain from any further acts which might be considered, in the present circumstances, as a deliberate shoe of strength directed against Libya," the statement went on.

Libya, an OAU member-state, had "the right to defend" the Gulf of Sidra which had been considered an integral part of its territorial waters since 1973, "until a fair and legal solution" determines whether or not it is open to international navigation, the statement added.

Earlier this month the OAU Council of Ministers had warned against the dangers of U.S. military maneuvers in progress in the Mediterranean off Libya.

Meanwhile Ethiopia, which is linked with Libya in a treaty of friendship and cooperation, also voiced condemnation of the United States for "acts of military provocation and aggression."

It described the U.S. military action as "unwarranted attacks on an independent nation."

In the Indian Ocean, government-owned *SEYCHELLES WEEKEND NATION* newspaper said: "When the self-confessed champions of the battle against terrorism themselves not only stoop to such activities in the name of democracy and freedom, but also accuse those they terrorize of state terrorism, then the poor and weak of the world can only look to the future with foreboding."

The paper ctied U.S. support for guerrilla groups in Angola and Nicaragua as examples of U.S. destabilization campaigns.

LIBYA

Reportage on Threats Against U.S. Interests Abroad

Aide to Al-Qadhdhafi

AU251552 Paris AFP in English 1544 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, March 25 (AFP) — Current clashes in the Gulf of Sidra between U.S. and Libyan forces will lead to Libyan reprisals against U.S. interests the world over, a Libyan official said today. "The new (U.S.) aggression perpetrated against the Libyan people will result in reprisals against U.S. interests, either in the Arab world or elsewhere," Muftah Muhammad Allaji [spelling as received] told the RTL radio station.

Mr. Allaji, a spokesman for Libya's official JANA news agency and known to be a close aide of Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, said that "the entire Arab nation backs Libya." "The Arab nation," he said, "is capable of dealing decisive blows to U.S. interests in the Arab world or anywhere else." "The U.S. aggression will result in speeding up the revolution in the Arab world that will allow it freedom from American domination," he said, adding that "the Arab nation is capable of transforming itself into suicide commandos" to hit out at U.S. interests.

VOGAH Urges Action

LD251909 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1808 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] To the masses of our Arab nation: Valiant men, protectors of dens, those who are positioned at the northern gate of the Jamahiriyah and on the hills of the line of death at the Gulf of Sidra have added today to Arab glory another new glory. They opposed U.S. aircraft and they made the skies used by them [U.S. aircraft] a piece of hell and burning flames. The U.S. aircraft fled in front of Arab eagles. So far, 3 U.S. aircraft were destroyed.

O masses of our Arab nation: A national earthquake is expected now so that when the morning comes all the world will see the uproar of the masses of our nation from the Mediterranean to the Gulf, in every city and town, in the countryside, hurrying toward the battlefield and lining up for war against the United States.

Oil that is being exploited and plundered by the United States should be destroyed now. U.S. bases in the Arab world should be invaded now. The U.S. spies who are disguised as experts and advisers should be hanged to death now, wherever they are in the Arab world.

The Egypt of 'Abd al-Nasir fought in 1956 with its people and the Arab nation. Let the war against the United States now be the suitable opportunity to destroy the United States at the hand of the Arab nation, at the forefront of which stands the valiant Libyan Arab people. Let every border in the Arab world, starting from the line of death in the Mediterranean, be a border of death at which the skulls of arrogant imperialists are destroyed. Let the oath of this nation's men and women be that no invader should return to the spot from which he came. Let no Arab grain of sand fall under the feet of the invaders.

Glory to the Arab nation; glory and honor to the Arab soil; preservation and sovereignty to the Arab sky; eternity to the brave Arab men who shot down and destroyed U.S. aircraft.

'Suicide Squads,' 'Human Bombs'

LD261454 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1305 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Voice of the Revolutionary Committees]

[Text] O masses of our Arab nation. Reagan's terrorist administration is blatantly and brazenly challenging us with its fleets, battleships, and aircraft and with all the advanced and sophisticated equipment of the U.S. war machine. It is challenging us in an attempt to intimidate us and break our will. It imagines that we shall abandon our stances and principles and abandon our resistance against it and its capitulationist plans in the Arab region and throughout the world. The U.S. terrorist Administration has not learned the lessons that the nations of the world have taught it — the lessons which rubbed the ugly and brazen face of America in the mud.

We do not fear America. We do not fear its fleets, battleships and terrorist aircraft. As always, we will lie in wait for the U.S. power mania. Our nation has never knelt before the U.S. arrogance. A nation whose youth has been transformed into human bombs does not know retreat. Let the Reagan administration remember the lesson of Lebanon; not long ago its soldiers and fleets fled in shame as a result of the heroic martyrdom-seeking operations by the sons of our Arab people.

O our Arab masses. America found nothing on our Arab Libyan territory, in our waters, and particularly in the Gulf of Defiance — the Gulf of Sidra — except bombs and missiles pursuing it wherever it was. O our Arab masses. There are U.S. Embassies, interests and companies of terror before you, spying on you and conspiring against your existence and plundering your wealth and wanting to humiliate you. Do you accept that?

Let the Arab nation be transformed in its entirety into suicide squads and human bombs, missiles and aircraft to deter and resist terrorism and to destroy it for good. Our missiles and our heroes are chasing the U.S. terrorists whenever the latter think of overstepping the Line of Death in the Gulf of Sidra.

O heroes of our Arab nation. Let your missiles and suicide cells chase the U.S. terrorist Embassies and interests wherever they may be. Victory is always for the peoples. Our Arab nation will inevitably triumph. Shame on America.

Fatah Spokesman

LD260915 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0801 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 26 Mar JANA — The official spokesman of the Palestinian Liberation Movement, Fatah -- the Revolutionary Council — has stated that the premeditated and perfidious aggression carried out by American imperialism against the Gulf of Sidra has clearly shown the extent of American brazeness, stupidity, piracy, and organized international terrorism.

The spokesman of the Palestinian Liberation Movement, Fatah — the Revolutionary Council — has stressed that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, with its revolution, its historical leadership and its brave and steadfast people in the face of the American schemes, will surely be able to resist the aggression. He added: Our Fatah movement — the Revolutionary Council — declares its stand by the side of the Libyan revolution and will place all its potential in its service. It considers all American imperialist interests, wherever they are, as a target for our revolutionaries.

The spokesman has called on all forces of goodness and all Arab revolutionary forces, Arab nationalist regimes and masses of our struggling nation to stand by the side of the struggle of the Libyan Arab people and to contribute with all their capabilities to the defeat of aggression and to the destruction of imperialism.

Iraqi Groups in West Europe

LD261012 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0930 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 28 Mar (JANA) — The branches of the movement of the revolutionary committees of Iraq in West Germany and Sweden, issued a statement yesterday which reads: We have repeatedly warned President Reagan during the presence of the U.S. 6th Fleet off the Libyan shores that any crossing of the Line of Death would be a signal for our movement to escalate suicide operations against U.S. forces and establishments anywhere in the world. Now the time has arrived for all revolutionary forces of the world, for members of the Pan-Arab Command of the Leadership of the Revolutionary Forces and members of the International Center Resisting Imperialism, Zionism, Racism, and Reaction, and for liberations movements to escalate their suicide operations everywhere against American imperialist interests and against their military establishments because the imperialist attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah is in fact an fierce attack against all revolutionary forces of the world.

Let America understand once again that the Great 1 September Revolution and its historic leadership under the command of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is supported by strong men who are determined to teach American imperialism a new, unforgettable lesson. Free men of the world everywhere, let us defend this revolution, this revolution which is aimed at defending weak peoples. We are certain of victory.

'Arab Revolutionary Force' in Turkey

LD260316 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0207 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Message from unidentified spokesman of the "Arab Revolutionary Force in Turkey" — live]

[Text] Brother leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution: We are the Arab Revolutionary Force in Turkey. We declare our continuous alliance with, and support for, the heroic Libyan Arab people in their brave stand in the face of the leader of international terrorism — the United States. We stress to you that the aggression against the Libyan Arab people represents an aggression against the Arab nation, the Islamic world, and all the struggling peace-loving peoples. Your brave stand in the face of U.S. arrogance is the beginning of the wronged peoples' march toward teaching the United States a lesson on the meaning of the struggle for freedom and liberty.

We declare our readiness to become fighters for freedom and for defending the Jamahiriyah, and to attack the dens of U.S. imperialism and the spies of its intelligence organization everywhere in the world. March forward. We are with you.

'Islamic Progressive Force' in Turkey

LD262035 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0159 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Message from a spokesman of "The Islamic Progressive Force in Turkey" — live]

[Text] Muslim revolutionary brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the 1 September Islamic Revolution: What U.S. imperialism is doing by way of (?aggressions) against the Muslim Libyan people is a violation of the freedom of Muslims everywhere. Your brave stand in the face of the forces of injustice and aggression represented by the fleets of the leader of U.S. international terrorism, is considered as a defense of Islam everywhere.

We are the active force of the Muslims in Turkey, and declare that we stand by you and are prepared to defend Islam by striking at U.S. interests wherever they might be and to implement the order of death defending freedom and Islam. March forward and glory be for Islam and annihilation for the United States.

Reportage, Commentary on Gulf of Sidra Events

U.S. Aircraft Chase Journalists' Plane

LD261129 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1113 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 26 Mar (JANA) — Aircraft from the U.S. 6th fleet currently off the Libyan shores pursued a civilian plane which was carrying a number of radio reporters and photographers yesterday. The American warplanes warned the civilian airline and forced it to keep out out the area.

JANA has already confirmed that U.S. 6th Fleet aircraft has pursued civil airlines crossing from Europe to Africa and used them as a pretext for infiltrating Libyan Arab airspace to carry out their premeditated aggressive aims against the Libyan Arab people.

Commentary on U.S. 'Defeat'

LD251619 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Unattributed commentary from the "Spotlights" program]

[Excerpt] Once more the Libyan Arab People have proven themselves capable of accepting the most ferocious challenges and of tackling the most ferocious degree of world imperialist arrogance. Once more the Libyan Arab people have proven their honesty in translating words into deeds, which shake the earth under the feet of the hordes of invaders, and into fire which pours venom of its wrath on their forces, inflicting losses on them and forcing them to retreat in shame, disgrace and defeat.

Today, the Libyan Arab people have become the pride of the peoples struggling against U.S. imperialism. The Great 1 September Revolution has affirmed in a manner which leaves no room for doubt that it leads firmly and efficiently the world liberation movement and that it is a strong, swift and solid bastion in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, fascism and Zionism and all the forces of oppression, and that it will lead them inevitably to clear victory, because it possesses the guide, the course and the determination.

Over the proud Gulf of Sidra wave after wave of the hoards of aggressors have been foundering under the withering fire of the Libyan Arab sky eagles, with the waters of this homeland blazing around them, raging with a sacred rancor fanned by the spirit of revolution that flares in the heart of every Libyan against every treacherous aggressor and by the continuous exhortation of the Great 1 September Revolution that there can be no life with enslavement and no sovereignty under thw shadow of threats.

As they face up to America, the Libyan Arab people provide lessons about the ability of the peoples who adhere to the principle of living in dignity and freedom or dying on their feet and who apply this principle to undermine all the calculations based on the arrogance of power. Where is America's might today? Where are its fleets and aircraft carriers? They have turned back licking the wounds of defeat and frustration.

The Libyan Arab people no longer need to prove that the Gulf of Sidra is an indivisible part of Libyan Arab territory. The whole world today realizes this geographic fact and understands its national dimension and its organic bond with our sovereignty over our land, water and air space. What is odd indeed is for a treacherous force to come from beyond the oceans, led by an actor who is mad with the arrogance of power and who has appointed himself an arbiter in matters affecting the causes of peoples and a policeman of the world's hotspots, defining for everyone their limits but forgetting to curb himself and define the sphere of his own might, and issuing his illusionary verdict and false claim that the Gulf of Sidra is international waters and that he has the right to sail in it with his Sixth Fleet vessels and roam about as he likes and whenever he likes, thus flouting the laws of oceans, seas, and internal bays and departing from the natural principle of the peoples' right to sovereignty over their territorial waters, air space and lands.

Prompted by this unaccepted fallacy, and driven by the arrogance of power and megalomania coupled with rancor against the historic leadership of the Great 1 September Revolution — which has driven the bases of U.S. imperialism from Libyan Arab territory and has hindered the U.S. imperialist march to occupy the Arab homeland and to control its wealth — driven and prompted by the above, Reagan has embarked on seizing opportunities and fabricating excuses and falsifying justifications and levelling false charges against the Libyan Arab people and their heroic revolutionary leadership, to amass his Sixth Fleet and aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean and to stage provocative and aggressive maneuvers off the Libyan arab shores and on our eastern borders.

U.S. terrorism went so far as to confront the Libyan Arab people militarily in the Gulf of Sidra in August 1981, and this made the world realize then the truth about the situation and about U.S. aggressive intentions and strategy which is aimed at imposing U.S. hegemony over the Arab region. Thereupon, the peoples and their forces throughout the world rose to express solidarity with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah against U.S. arrogance and terrorism and to affirm Libya's right to its sovereignty over the Gulf of Sidra and its natural right to self-defense.

It was in light of this that the Libyan Arab people decided to build up their military might, which has become part of the logic of the age, if not the basic logic of establishing, defending and dying for their rights, and to totally transform themselves into an armed people, as it has become impossible for us to have any dialogue with U.S. statesmen other than that of the logic of force and the logic of military force, just as the commander of the Great 1 September Revolution said on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the revolution and has repeatedly affirmed to the whole world: Without military might, the Gulf of Sidra cannot be defended and America will not hesitate to enter and occupy it unless prevented from doing so by an effective and active forces. Today, U.S. imperialism has been escalating its military aggression against the Libyan Arab people in the Gulf of Sidra, believing that the proud Libyan people would be terrified of its warships, aircraft and missiles and thus surrender to a fait accompli and would accept threats to their sovereignty over their territorial waters, skies and territorial integrity. However, the Libyan people laid in wait and their air defenses shot down three U.S. transgressor planes. Thus the Libyan Arab people rubbed America's arrogant nose in the mud of the waters of the Gulf of Sidra, the Gulf of Blood and Death, thereby affirming its words by deeds. They will lie in wait for every treacherous aggressor.

Envoy in Turkey on Attack

LD251323 Ankara ANATOLIA in Turkish 1230 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Ankara, 25 Mar (ANATOLIA) — Muhammad 'Abd al-Malik, secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Ankara, said in connection with the conflict between the United States and Libya that "this could be the beginning of a war." In answering an ANATOLIA agency correspondent's questions today, 'Abd al-Malik said that "they attacked us; we acted in defense."

'Abd al-Malik, the secretary of the People's Bureau, said that the crisis between the two countries had intensified following the bombardment of civilian residential areas in the vicinity of the town of Surt by U.S. aircraft and added: "At this moment we do not know the extent of the damage caused in the region as a result of the bombardment. Our anti-aircraft batteries hit back during the bombardment and shot down three U.S. aircraft. As our leader Al-Qadhdhafi has stated: Libya's stand is clear. If they cross the line of death, we shall defend ourselves."

Muhammad 'Abd al-Malik said that they know that the U.S. maneuvers will continue to the end of the current month and that at this moment life in Libya is normal.

Foreign Liaison Bureau Summons Foreign Envoys

LD251751 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1606 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli 25 Mar (JANA) — The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison summoned representatives of the diplomatic missions accredited to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah at midday today and acquainted them with the U.S. aggression against the Libyan Arab people.

The committee told the ambassadors that what is currently taking place is an aggression from a big power against a small country, which is a part of the Arab nation and a member of the United Nations.

It said that Libya will confront this aggression with all its means.

The committee pointed out the peace and security of the Mediterranean and the countries overlooking it have come into real danger from the U.S. aggression, particularly following the firing of U.S. missiles toward Libyan territory and from inside Libyan territorial waters.

The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison affirmed to the heads of the diplomatic missions accredited to the Jamahiriyah that the Gulf of Sidra is territorial waters, that we will die for it, and that there will be no capitulation.

It pointed out that world peace is being threatened seriously, because we in the Jamahiriyah will consider any U.S. target and the U.S. and Mediterranean bases hostile targets which we will confront.

The committee pointed out that the U.S. aggression against the Jamahiriyah threatens the peace and safety of crossing planes and ships, and that the U.S. is exploiting this to realize its ambitions of attacking Libyan territory.

The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison affirmed to the heads of the diplomatic missions that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah will continue its brave opposition against U.S. hostility.

We affirm that the Gulf of Sidra is Libyan territorial waters and is considered as Libyan soil; it is dividing Libya into two parts, and whoever enters it is trying to split the country in two, and in no circumstances would any foreign power be allowed to enter the gulf.

It pointed out that the Basic People's Congresses have decided to confront the aggression directed against it... [JANA ellipsis]

The brother leader has repeatedly warned the United States and the European countries that we are prepared to die for the Gulf of Sidra and that it could turn into a red gulf. That is what is currently happening.

Further Details

LD260016 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison summoned Arab and African ambassadors and the ambassadors of the Latin American and West European countries and the countries of the socialist group accredited to the Jamahiriyah, and informed them about the following situation:

Concerning the U.S. aggression against the Jamahiriyah: First, what is happening now is an aggression by a big country against a small country;

Second, Libya will combat this aggression using its right to self-defense and to protect its security and the safety of its territories;

Third, the security of the Mediterranean and the Mediterranean countries is now facing a real danger because of the U.S. aggression against the Jamahiriyah;

Fourth, what is currently happening is actually a direct aggression by the United States against a UN member-country;

Fifth, we wonder what will happen after American rockets were fired at the Libyan land and inside Libyan territorial waters;

Sixth, Libya warns that peace is actually threatened and that during our resistance to this aggression we will consider any U.S. target and the American and NATO bases as hostile;

Seventh, the Gulf of Sidra is Libyan territorial waters and death will be the fate of whoever crosses into it. We will never retreat from this position, whatever the price might be;

Eighth, the U.S. aggression has endangered the safety of even civilian airliners and ships, and is now exploiting the passage of civilian airliners to and from Europe and Africa for the achievement of its goals of aggression against the Libyan Arab territories.

Soviet UN Envoy Condemns U.S. Military Actions

LD260037 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The Soviet ambassador to the United Nations has condemned the U.S. military aggression against the Jamahiriyah. He reaffirmed that this aggression is a clear violation of international law. The Soviet ambassador, in a statement made today in New York, said that the U.S. premeditated military escalation against the Jamahiriyah is because of the Jamahiriyah's brave and principled attitudes vis-a-vis the Arab issue and questions of liberation the world over — attitudes which are not to the liking of the imperialist U.S. Government.

The Soviet ambassador referred to U.S. hypocrisy which was apparent in the Reagan administration's claim of protecting navigation in the Mediterranean and this administration's flagrant violation of Soviet and Bulgarian territorial waters in the Black Sea. The ambassador wondered: Who has asked the United States to protect navigation? Who has asked the United States to install itself as a police guard in the region? How can small Libya threaten the United States?

Tripoli TV Cites USSR's Lomeyko on U.S. 'Aggression'

LD260046 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Vladimir Lomeyko, head of the press section at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, said the Soviet Union denounces and is extremely concerned at the U.S. armed aggression against the Jamahiriyah. At a press conference in Moscow today, he said the real motive behind this oppressive outrage is implementation of the old plans of the United States aimed at destablizing the region. Vladimir Lomeyko pointed out that Washington's military actions are a violation of the simplest bases of international law and a phenomenon of the policy of official terrorism.

The head of the press section at the Soviet Foreign Ministry reaffirmed that it is the duty of the peace-loving forces of the world to raise their voices and to stand by the Libyan Arab people who have become the victim of Washington's aggression and irresponsible policy which threatens not only the Mediterranean region but also world peace.

Al-Qadhdhafi Visits Tripoli International Fair

LD260003 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution toured the Tripoli International Fair this evening. During this tour he visited the pavilion of Libyan-Maltese joint industries and some national pavilions. The brother leader was accompanied on this tour by a large number of international pressmen and agency correspondents. Upon arrival at the Tripoli International Fair, the brother leader was greeted by revolutionary chants for a long life of the Great Al- Fatih Revolution and its brave leader, reaffirming the resolve and steadfastness of the Libyan Arab people against all the U.S. provocative campaigns and the inevitability of the downfall of U.S. imperialism, Zionism, and reaction.

The masses which filled the Tripoli International Fair then staged a huge demonstration of anger condemning the U.S. provocative campaigns. Their revolutionary chantings reaffirmed these masses' readiness to fight and carry out the order of death in defense of every inch of Libyan Arab territory and territorial waters. The brother leader of the revolution shook hands with ambassadors and diplomats accredited to the Jamahiriyah who were at the fair.

Reportage on Messages of Support for Al-Qadhdhafi

Syrian, YAR Presidents Telephone

LD252313 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The president of the Syrian Arab Republic contacted the brother leader of the revolution by phone and enquired about the latest development in the current situation. During this telephone contact the Syrian president reaffirmed that the Syrian Arab people place all their capabilities at the disposal of their brothers the Arab people in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Yemeni Arab Republic President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih said the Arab people in North Yemen follow with pride the stance of the Libyan Arab people in their brave resistance against U.S. aggression. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and Colonel Salih agreed to continue the contact between them to follow up the development of the current sitaution.

[Begin recording of telephone conversation between Al-Qadhdhafi and 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih] [Salih] By God [words indistinct] great interest in the [words indistinct] the United States against the Libyan Arab territories and we feel that Libya is an indivisible part of the Arab nation; it is the point of the bayonet of the Arab Nation.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] [Words indistinct]

[Salih] Any enemy trying to violate territories [words indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] No doubt that is true.

[Salih] God willing you will have assuring news.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] At any rate, we are prepared and ready and are continuing our resistance with bravery [words indistinct] but this proves that there is but one Arab nation and the Americans cannot deal with every part of the Arab nation individually. Your words, brother president, reaffirm this fact — this unity of the Arab nation. Your pan-Arab and honorable stance. [incomplete sentence as heard] On every occasion you were the first to stand by your brothers in the Jamahiriyah. This is what is required of you.

[Salih] [Words indistinct] when I say that we are on the side of Libya and any Arab country, I do not say so for propaganda reasons or for gain; these words [words indistinct] with the policy and dignity and honor of Libya, and Libya is an indivisible part of the Arab nation. Anything that happens in Libya we regard as happening in the Yemen and we regard Libya's resistance as a source of pride for the Arab nation because Libya is confronting the biggest state in the world — America. [Words indistinct] and morale and we are confident that you are capable of checking any aggression.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Brother 'Ali, I am grateful. We are recording a glory for the Arab nation. We will not fail this Arab nation at all. We know you and we know your pan-Arab firm and true attitude; it does not change. Yemen is always the Yemen — it is the cradle of Arabism. It is the starting point for the Arab nation. The Yemen even reached the shores of Africa — and America wants to fight us over them.

[Salih] At any time we are totally ready to meet all your requirements.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] We know; God bless you.

[Salih] That is it.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] The struggle continues. [end recording]

Further Details

LD251937 Tripoli JANA in English 1846 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 14, Mar 25, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the president of the Yemen Arab Republic established today a telephone contact with the leader of the revolution to enquire of the developments in the current situation.

Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih confirmed the placing of all the capabilities of the Yemen Arab Republic at the disposal of thbe Libyan Arab people. He said: "The Arab people of North Yemen follow up with pride the stance of the Libyan Arab people by bravely confronting U.S. aggression". They agreed upon the continued contacts to follow up the developments in the current situation.

Iranian Prime Minister

LD260329 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0215 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Islamic Republic of Iran Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi telephoned Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud last evening. In this telephone call, the Iranian prime minister praised the brother leader of the revolution and the Libyan Arab people's bravery in the face of the U.S. aggression. He said this bravery has shown the world and given many people hope that they can stand up to the United States.

The Iranian prime minister stressed that the Iranian People's internal and external resources are at the fraternal Libyan Arab people's disposal. Engineer Musavi added that Iran considers any aggression against Libya as an aggression against Iran.

Saudi Arabia's King Fahd

LD252216 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2154 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] King Fahd of Saudi Arabia contacted the brother leader of the revolution this evening and asked about the current situation. He affirmed Saudi Arabia's stand on the side of and support for the people of the Jamahiriyah in its confrontation with U.S. aggression and placed all the potentials of the Arab Saudi people on the side of the Arab people in the Jamahiriyah. King Fahd also emphasized that the Arab nation will triumph over the vicious U.S. aggression.

Morocco's King Hassan

LD252312 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received a cable from King Hassan II of Morocco, in which he pointed out that the Moroccan people stand by and are in full solidarity with their brothers, the Libyan Arab people in their confrontation of the treacherous U.S. aggression.

Heads of Arab Diplomatic Missions

LD251948 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1858 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Mar (JANA) — A number of heads of Arab diplomatic missions accredited to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah told a JANA correspondent that their countries stand by Libya in its brave resistance against the U.S. aggression on its land and territorial waters. The Syrian ambassador reaffirmed that Syria is in solidarity with Libya and stands by it with all its capabilities to check this aggression. The Sudanese ambassador said that it was time that the Arab nation applied the joint defense agreement against this flagrant aggression on account that the United States is an ally of the Zionist enemy and by this flagrant aggression, the United States aims against the entire Arab nation and not the Jamahiriyah alone. He added that his country, people and government, stands with all its power with the Libyan Arab people in their resistance against U.S. imperialism.

The Algerian ambassador declared that his country is placing all its capabilities at the disposal of the Jamahiriyah in its brave resistance against the U.S. aggression on the Libyan Arab land.

The YAR ambassador pointed out that the U.S. imperialist aggression on the Libyan Arab people is an aggression on the Arab nation reaffirming his country's stand by the Libyan Arab people in their brave resistance against the U.S. aggression.

The PDRY ambassador renewed his country's firm stand by the Libyan Arab people in their brave resistance against the U.S. aggression, and reaffirmed his country's readiness to send fighters to the Gulf of Sidra to fight side by side with their Libyan Arab brothers against the arrogance of U.S. imperialism.

DFLP Spokesman

LD251912 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1745 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Statement by the "official spokesman" of DFLP — read by announcer]

[Text] The direct military aggression last night against the ships and territory of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah constitute an extremely dangerous threat and a broad escalation of U.S. terrorism against the region, as well as direct support for the Zionist occupation of Arab territories and the aggressive and expansionist policy of Israel. This direct military intervention against the Libyan Jamahiriyah comes within the framework of the U.S. attempts to impose through its war fleets, its complete hegemony over the region as well as conditions of surrender upon our people.

The DFLP declares its complete support, with all its potential, for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in its resistance to Reagan's imperialist and terrorist war, his direct military aggression. The DFLP calls on all Arab forces to hasten to the side of Libya and cut their diplomatic ties with the United States, as well as declare a comprehensive economic boycott, including the closing of their harbors and airports to U.S. ships and aircraft. The unity of the Arab nationalist forces, which expelled U.S. Marines and warships from Lebanon, are also able to defeat the U.S. aggression against the Jamahiriyah.

[Signed] The DFLP
25 March 1986

VOGAH Cites 25 Mar Attack on U.S. Embassy in Beirut

LD260337 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0215 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The U.S. Embassy in Beirut was shelled yesterday. An organization called the Arab Revolutionary Forces claimed responsibility for shelling the embassy. In its statement, the organization stressed that the attack is in response to the armed U.S. aggression against the Libyan Arab territories.

The organization added in its statement: Our forces shelled the U.S. Embassy in Beirut last evening, which is the den of spying and conspiring against our Arab people in Lebanon and the other Arab countries.

The statement stressed that the shelling expresses the anger of the peoples in the Arab world against U.S. imperialism and their solidarity with the Arab people in Libya and its revolution, and their leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

The Arab Revolutionary Forces statement concluded by stressing that its forces will continue to strike at U.S. interests until they put an end to U.S. arrogance.

MAURITANIA

Communique Expresses Support for Libya

AB260920 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation issued a communique yesterday expressing Mauritania's solidarity with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in the face of the military action being taken against it. Here is the communique:

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania is deeply preoccupied with the military action being carried out against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and considers it as the fulfillment of a threat and the use of force against an independent and sovereign state.

It is regrettable that this means, which has never constituted a solution to legal battles, has prevailed instead of the search for a peaceful means of settlement especially by a superpower which is a permanent member of the Security Council and has international responsibilities.

Mauritania asserts its solidarity with the sister Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and launches an appeal for a peaceful solution to the problem and an end to the use of force, in order to make reason and wisdom prevail, as the continuation of fighting could have serious consequences, and it would be difficult to foresee the repercussions on peace in the region and in the whole world.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Declares Solidarity With Libya

LD252047 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Morocco has declared full solidarity with the Libyan Jamahiriyah following the escalation of the Libyan-U.S. conflict. This came in a cable sent by His Majesty King Hassan II to the leader of the Libyan revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. His majesty also received a verbal message from the leader of the Libyan revolution, delivered by Kamil Hasan al-Mansur, secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaision, who was received by His Majesty today. Here is the text of His Majesty's cable to Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi:

Dear brother. We are following with growing interest the current situation in sister Libya and we most sincerely regret the martyrdom of Libyan citizens. We are fully confident that your sacrifices will not be in vain. The basic objective for which we strive is the maintenance of international peace and security, especially in this part of the Mediterranean with which we have various links. In this context we express to you and to the fraternal Libyan people our full solidarity and confirm to you that we shall in turn exert all our efforts and do everything necessary in particular for the respect of the integrity of the sister Libyan Jamahiriyah. All the Moroccan people add their voice to ours in presenting condolences which are saturated with deep sorrow to the fraternal Libyan people and to the families of the martyrs. Dear brother. Please accept our highest appreciation.

This morning, His Majesty King Hassan II, may God make him victorious, received at the royal palace in Marrakech Kamil Hasan al-Mansur, secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, who conveyed a verbal message from Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to His Majesty King Hassan II. This was also an occasion for him to say goodbye to his majesty at the end of his term as assistant secretary general of the African Arab Union and his appointment as secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison in the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

Then his majesty chaired a working session with Al-Mansuri in the presence of Muhammad Zuway, the Libyan secretary resident in Rabat, and Ahmed Reda Guedira, his majesty's adviser.

King Hassan Interviewed by ARAB TIMES

GF251516 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 24 Mar 86 pp 5, 10

[Interview with Moroccan King Hassan II by Ahmad al-Jarallah — date and place not given]

[Text] Question: The Arab world is currently witnessing many tragedies such as the Gulf war, the incidents in Egypt and civil war in Lebanon and Sudan. As a man close to the superpowers, what do you feel will be the consequences?
Answer: Your question covers the whole Arab situation. Our present problems are a result, directly or indirectly, of our own

actions. When Allah wanted the Arab world to be independent and to liberate its lands, the Arab world was divided into countries which have similar political, economic and social systems. The first Arab countries to gain independence in 1945 were Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Iraq and Syria.

The one behind the foundation of the Arab League realised the feelings of Arabs so he prepared for the collapse of Arabs and disunity and instead tried to get them together united under the umbrella of the League. I remember a speech my father, the late King Mohammed V, made in Tangiers in 1947, which shook the foundations of colonialism in North Africa. He expressed the wishes of the Moroccan people for Arab unity. We had great hopes for Arab unity and wanted to see the League unite the Arabs and liberate those Arab lands that were at that time still under the colonialist.

That is necessary background, but now let us look at Arab history, post-1950. In the 1950's the Arab world was rocked by revolutions in Egypt and Iraq. These revolutions were not designed to change the political line of the regimes involved or the personalities in power, but they shook the moral foundations of the two countries.

When it came to rebuilding the states, they did not go back to the Arab heritage to build up new societies which might have corresponded to the ambitions of the Arab people. Instead, these revolutions took political ideas from Eastern Europe and the people were obliged to accept these ideals. They wanted to distance their people from Arab heritage and civilisation, including their moral heritage.

Under normal circumstances, after a revolution the status quo regarding heritage, philosophy and ideology would be maintained, with all their positive and negative aspects. But these revolutions left nothing. They tried to influence neighbouring countries, trying to make them change their policies to the new line. The result for the Arabs was that they became a typical example of one Arab proverb: The crow tries to walk like a pigeon, fails to do this and also forgets the way it should walk.

Changes in regimes and ideologies in the Arab world create the gulf between fact and fiction. We forget the good which can come from direct dialogue between a ruler and his people. This dialogue no longer exists in the way it did before the revolutions and the acceptance of foreign ideologies.

Those Arab regimes describing themselves as liberal have lied to their people. These leaders have been lying to the people for many years so now it is impossible for them to return to past days and reveal the truth. Because of this the people have had to find out the truth for themselves, and this has reflected not only on the countries involved, but also on other states. The situation has even reached Morocco, even though we are some distance from the seat of these unpleasant circumstances.

All this has had an exhausting and weakening effect on the Arab nation; it is like a body which has become old and weak before its time. The Arab body is sick with national disasters because of old crises. I don't want to be pessimistic, but this is a fact. However, optimism can return and the black picture can be turned bright again.

Q: Let me ask you, not as a journalist but as an Arab, what do you see as the solution to this situation?
A: Of course there are solutions I can give. But I don't want to go into detail, because I am not the physician to treat this sick body. I am not in a position to offer solutions for other countries because each Arab state has its own characteristics. I do not want to repeat the mistakes of certain leaders, who thought they could teach others. Arab leaders each have to find the solution for their own country.

I see the Arab world as divided into three groups of countries: the Gulf states, which have succeeded in forming the GCC; a middle group, including Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, Sudan, Syria, North and South Yemen, Somalia and Djibouti, which should come to some sort of agreement, because they have similar problems; and finally, the group of North African Arab states, including Morocco, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria and Mauritania. The Gulf states reached agreement between themselves, and we are grateful for this, because it provided an example for other Arab states. Linking the Arab world through groups like the GCC could reduce the problems of Arab countries and would also help efforts to solve problems between individual states. One of the problems in the Arab world is our disunity and the fact we have decisions being issued from so many different quarters. This is one of our national disasters.

Q: Do you believe that Arab leaders are sincere in dealing with their people?
A: I can only answer for myself, and say that I believe that the Moroccan people hear facts and frank views from me. Any ruler who is not sincere in dealing with his people cannot rule for long unless he uses force against his people.

Q: Is the honeymoon between Jordan and the Palestinians over, or are you still making efforts to solve the differences between them?
A: Morocco will always be willing to mediate between Arab countries. Personally, I believe unity between the Palestinians and Jordan is a basis for solving Arab problems. I told my last news conference that relations between the Palestinians and Jordan were relations within a family. We are continually trying to mediate, particularly as my relations with King Husayn are those of a brother.

Q: Do you believe that the US is sincere in its promises to the Palestinians if they accept Security Council Resolution 242?
A: I am to meet President Reagan in June and I will put this question to him. Later, I will see if the US is sincere or not.

Q: At your last news conference you said that the Arabs should implement the joint defence pact. Did you mean that Arab states should be involved in the war against Iran, to defend Iraq?
A: Even if they do not enter the war, they should at least support Iraq through their policies, and diplomacy and in their newspapers. There are Arab countries which support Iran against Iraq with military supplies. I believe that those countries which do not abide by the Arab defence pact should leave the Arab League. There are no options to accept or reject the defence pact. No one

has the right to play with Arab League charters. The only choice for those who do not abide by these charters is to leave the Arab League.

Q: You have applauded the formation of the GCC; do you fear for the GCC states because of the Iran-Iraq war?
A: I am afraid, because the Arabian Peninsula is full of dangers. In the north is the Arab-Israeli dispute; to the east we have the Gulf waters which are a hotbed of tension because of the Iran-Iraq war; in the south we have seen the recent incidents in South Yemen; and in the west we have the Red Sea which has also become explosive because of the internal problems in Sudan, and the Sudan-Ethiopia dispute. Personally, I expect sudden changes, but I do not like political surprises or incidents, especially when they come together as they have done with the Gulf war, the South Yemen incident, the Sudanese problem and the Sudan-Ethiopian dispute.

Arab states should do their duty. We are all Arab brothers and should support each other. We should not forget that all Arab states have benefited from the wealth of the Gulf states, so it is not right to refuse to support these states when they face dangers. I am sorry to say that there are certain Arab countries which cause and encourage these dangers, which is not in line with Arab morals.

Q: Morocco recently hosted a Jewish conference, did this conference achieve your aims?
A: To date, the Arabs have never been acquainted with Jewish theories by the Jews themselves. The Jews have always spoken to us through President Reagan, through the French president or through the former Austrian chancellor, Bruno Kreisky. I am not convinced that this is right, because I feel that if an Israeli official met an Arab official on the same level, then they would know they would have to keep their promises.

I would like to ask the Arab people, their kings and presidents, whether they feel it would be an insult or a disgrace to select one person to meet an Israeli official — without signing an agreement or putting obligaions on the Israelis — just to meet to put forward the decisions of the Fes Arab summit and to see what the Israelis have to offer. If this happened the Israeli official would not have a chance to dodge, he would be obliged to say exactly what is in his mind. Later, the Arab delegate would notify the other Arab leaders about what had been said and his interpretation of it. Arab leaders would then take a decision. I do not believe that we shall ever really know the intentions of the Israelis when they come from foreign countries and mediators.

Q: In 1958 you said that Israel could only be destroyed through peace. Do you still feel the same way?
A: I said that during the dinner party in Lebanon when I was crown prince. I said that every country had a Jewish community. I also said that if we assume that Arab countries recognise Israel and see it as a rod in Arab states and a member of the Arab League, then what would happen? I was attacked for that and many things were said about me. The Arab world has missed many opportunities, but I now believe there is a chance to achieve a peace settlement restoring the occupied lands and respecting the rights of the Palestinians.

Q: Has the Moroccan decision to end the war with the Polisario achieved its aims?
A: Morocco did not attack anyone after the "Green March" ended. Morocco was the target and we suffered many casualties because we were attacked suddenly. Now we have fortified the major part of the desert, but we still stick to our policy of not attacking others. There are some clashes with the Polisario but they are not important.

Q: You are the symbol of Moroccan unity, what would happen in the event of your absence?
A: Throughout history, Morocco has defeated all plots against it. It is like any other country, sometimes strong and sometimes weak. I believe I am the servant of this nation and the servant of the Arab and Islamic nation. Some day I won't be here, but I have educated my sons and believe I have succeeded in building a "Hassan II Generation" in Morocco, which will be able to shoulder its responsibilities and educate the coming generation.

Q: You are a ruler who has faced tragedy, how has this affected your personality?
A: During my years of rule I have faced two incidents in the Sukairat area in 1971 and 1972 and the accident involving my plane. I thought I had lost everything, but Allah protected and saved me. The Moroccan Army may now be clean, without that Army we could not have gone to the Golan and Sinai in 1973. I am only human, so those incidents were a tragedy to me. But that doesn't mean I am always looking over my shoulder. When I look back on what happened, I think only to thank Allah for protecting me.

Q: What was the purpose of the crown prince's recent visit to Saudi Arabia?
A: When my son visits another Arab country he does so to increase the bonds of love and friendship between Arabs. I am pleased he responded to the invitation from the Saudi Crown Prince. I watched his visit on television and my son told me of the warm reception he had received in Saudi Arabia. He was received as a president not just as a crown prince. He was received warmly by King Fahd, the crown prince, princes and Saudi officials. Such a reception acts as a bridge linking the Arabs, and connecting the east and west of the Arab world.

Q: What was the intention behind appointing the crown prince as chief of staff?
A: There is no chief of staff but me. But I felt that after completing the fourth year of his studies in the faculty of law, the crown prince should undertake practical responsibilities, under my supervision, and review the problems and interests of the Armed Forces.

Q: Has the entry of Spain and Portugal into the EEC had an effect on Morocco?
A: Morocco should not depend on its friends in Europe. We have many friends in Europe, such as France, and they have kept a trade balance between us and Spain and Portugal. Personally I believe that there is a vast open market for Morocco in the Arab countries of the Middle East. Morocco should try to break into these markets and should prepare the necessary transport network for this. It is not difficult to look for new markets. The

European markets will need Moroccan goods in the future as their cost of living and consumption increase.

Q: Is Morocco heavily burdened by debt?
A: In the last century, countries which could not repay their debts were colonised by their creditor nation; this may have been the reason behind Morocco's colonisation in the past. Nowadays, debts do not lead to colonisation, but they still reduce freedom, because the debtor nation is under an obligation to pay its debts and this hinders development plans. In Morocco we have no internal financial problem; liquidity is available and we have development plans. However, we do need to increase our export so we have more hard currency. Our development plans in Morocco have gone well, despite the increase in oil prices and the war in the desert which had to be financed. For instance, our oil consumption cost us 41 billion in 1973. Even our returns from phosphate were unable to cover our expenditure. Tourism, remittances from Moroccan workers overseas and agriculture cover our spending. We have benefited from the rebuilding of dams in the country which were damaged. Our debt situation is not abnormal.

Q: How do you see the Moroccan economy developing in the next five years?
A: I cannot give an accurate picture, but studies forecast that Morocco's population will rise to 40 million over the next 20 years and we have to prepare our economic plans with this in mind.

Q: What do you think has prompted the wave of religious extremism which has swept Morocco and other Arab countries?
A: This new wave prompts us to ask: Who really knowns religion? Religion, as we see it, is simple and easy to understand and practice. It is not complicated. When we talk of religious people as fundamentalists, we mean that they understand the fundamentals of religion. The current wave of religious extremism lacks leaders and activists who are aware of the fundamentals and simplicity of religion.

Q: There is talk of a new "Green March" to liberate the cities of Ceuta and Melilla; is this right?
A: I feel when you ask this question that you are still thinking of the first "Green March". The march is not an aspirin we take when our headache intensifies. Marchers can be similar, but they are never repeated, as each situation in unique. The march to liberate Ceuta and Melilla is the march of dialogue and negotiation. I am sure that our neighbours in Spain will understand our dialogue, particularly with the restoration of Gibraltar and the visit of the king of Spain to Britain, for the first time since the rule of Philip II who fought against Queen Elizabeth I of Britain in the 15th century. When Spain restores its lands, it will have two windows on the sea, which is unacceptable to everyone. This is particularly so since Spain joined NATO, as the Soviets will not accept a NATO state having exits on the straits from the north and south. With patience and dialogue the problem will be solved without complecations. Morocco's western boundary is the sea, in the south it is the desert and in the north, Spain. If this situation is disturbed, it will mean that Spain has become an obstacle between Morocco and Europe. If the roots that give life to Morocco are in the south, then the leaves which give out oxygen are in the north. These are the pressing factors, for both Morocco and Spain. Our "Green March" to Ceuta and Melilla is more a combination of patience, reason and the power of persuasion.

With these comments, an intellectual giant who brought stability to Morocco and preserve it for the Arab nations, brought our interview to a close.

SUDAN

Further Reportage on Addis Ababa Meeting

SPLA-SPLM Spokesman Comments

EA251538 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The preliminary conference between the SPLA-SPLM and the National Alliance for National Salvation ended its deliberations yesterday at Koka, about 60 miles from the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa. According to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Administration and Logistics Major Arok Thuon Arok, who is the spokesman for the SPLA-SPLM delegation, the deliberations were conducted in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. He expressed satisfaction on the results of the conference, which he described as successful. He said that a joint committee has been set up to draft the final resolution which will be issued soon. The delegation for the National Alliance for National Salvation is expected to leave for Khartoum today.

Norwegian Aid Official Seized by Rebels

AU251838 Paris AFP in English 1832 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Oslo, March 25 (AFP) — Rebels in southern Sudan abducted a Norwegian aid official last Sunday, the Christian Emergency Relief organization announced here Tuesday. The relief worker, Arne Olav Oeyhus, was captured by guerillas while on a morning jogging trip near his office in a village which the statement issued by the organization did not identify.

The guerrillas have so far not presented any demands for his release. Senior officials of Christian Emergency Relief have flown to Kenya to try to launch negotiations with the abductors.

According to the Norwegian organization, 500 guerrillas attacked the village where Mr. Oeyhus was working.

Rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army have been engaged in a three-year war with the Khartoum authorities to secure more autonomy for the largely Christian south of the country and overturn the imposition in 1984 of Islamic Shari'a law.

Chief of Staff Comments on Situation in Rumbek

JN231739 Khartoum SUNA in English 1720 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum March 23, (SUNA) -- TMC member and chief of staff of the Peoples' Armed Forces Gen. Muhammad Tawfiq Khalil has reiterated that the situation in Rumbek was satisfactory and that the morale of Rumbek commander and his troops, who had earlier pulled out of the town, was encouraging. Speaking to SUNA Khalil expressed confidence of the General Command of the Armed Forces in the military commander of Rumbek (south Sudan). He added that reinforcements had been dispatched to the Army contingents there.

It is to be recalled that a recent attack by the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) had forced the unit of Rumbek to pull out early this month for tactical reasons, as the Chief of Staff Khalil asserted in his recent statement. He did not however explain whether the government Armed Forces have recaptured the town or not.

Siwar al-Dhahab Addresses Anti-Apartheid Committee

JN231750 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1520 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] New York, 23 Mar (SUNA) — Sudan has affirmed its full support for struggler peoples in South Africa, Namibia, and Palestine. This came in a message addressed to the UN Anti-Apartheid Committee by General Siwar al-Dhahab, Transitional Military Council chairman, on the occasion of the international day to end apartheid. The message was read by Sudan's UN representative the day before yesterday.

The message affirms that the situation in southern Africa coincides with grave developments in the Middle East as a result of actions being taken by the racist regimes in Pretoria and Tel Aviv, of their indifference to the international community's will, and of their opposition to the basic rights of the South African, Namibian, and Palestinian peoples — rights recognized by the UN Charter and confirmed by UN resolutions, as well as by other international and regional organizations. The message adds that it is no secret that the two regimes rely on force and act against neighboring countries, as shown by South Africa's policies against Frontline States and by Israel's occupation of other countries' territory by force, including the invasion of Lebanon.

The message also expresses the hope of the Sudanese people and government that this year's celebrations will be an advanced step toward achieving the aspirations of the South African, Namibian, and Palestinian peoples. It also calls for making these aspirations a subject of UN interest. The message points out that this year's celebrations on the occasion of the international day to end apartheid coincide with the 26th anniversary of the Sharpsville massacre which revealed the nature of the racist regime in South Africa. The message also calls on the international community to redouble efforts and intensify pressure on the South African regime to make it respond to UN and Security Council resolutions. It also urges the next international conference on sanctions against South Africa to rise to the level of the challenges of the situation and achieve good results in favor of the struggler peoples in southern Africa.

Egyptian Military Delegation Arrives in Khartoum

JN231721 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1443 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Mar (SUNA) — An Egyptian military delegation led by Major General Ahmad Salah al-Din 'Abd al-Halim and comprising eight senior officers representing various military units arrived in Khartoum yesterday. In a statement to *AL-AYYAM* newspaper issued today, Egyptian Ambassador in Khartoum 'Abbas Musharrafah said that the military delegation's visit is part of the continued consultations between the Sudanese and Egyptian military sides, adding that the talks will deal with problems of common interest, particularly military issues, as well as with issues previously discussed by Sudanese Defense Minister Major General 'Uthman 'Abdallah during his recent visit to Cairo.

The Egyptian ambassador also said that the military delegation's visit is aimed at discussing issues pertaining to military training and needs. In this regard the Egyptian ambassador denied reports that Egypt refused to deliver some weapons to Sudan, describing such reports as baseless lies and affirming that his country has met all its obligations toward Sudan. He also denied any link between the visit and the current war in southern Sudan, adding that the Collective Arab Defense Pact does not apply to this problem.

The Egyptian ambassador also stressed that because of Egypt's firm policy toward Sudan and its efforts to achieve unity and stability in Sudan and enable Sudan to overcome its problems, Egypt will oppose any attempt to turn the southern problem into an international or regional issue.

Al-Ummah Party Leader Returns From Libya

JN231820 Khartoum SUNA in English 1728 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar. 23 SUNA — Leader of the Al-Ummah Party Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi returned home yesterday after a one-day official visit to Libya. During the visit Al-Mahdi held talks with the Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and other Libyan officals on bilateral relations, Al-Mahdi said upon his arrival here.

I gave comprehensive explanations to the Libyan officials regarding the recent developments of the situation in the Sudan, Al-Mahdi added. The Al-Ummah Party leader described his talks with the Libyan officials as very successful.

Foreign Minister Confirms Uganda's Okello in Khartoum

JN231647 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Mar (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub has confirmed that former Ugandan President Tito Okello is in Khartoum. However, he said that the new Ugandan Government knows about and is satisfied with the former Ugandan president's presence in Khartoum. Citing the Transitional Military Council member [as received], the newspaper *AL-MAYDAN*, organ of the Sudanese Communist Party, said that President Okello has so far not asked for political asylum in Sudan. Three of his senior assistants, who accompanied him, have also not asked for political asylum in Sudan.

The Sudanese official said that a senior Ugandan official, Felix Onama, defense minister in the Obote government, has visited Khartoum recently as an envoy of President Yoweri Museveni and offered options to Tito Okello. Among these options were offers to return to Uganda to live peacefully there or to live in Tanzania or Kenya whose governments have offered to receive him.

TUNISIA

President Bourguiba Voices 'Deep Concern'

LD261310 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba has presided over a working session attended by Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and minister of the interior; Beji Caid Essebsi, minister of foreign affairs; Mr Slaheddine Baly, minister of national defense; Mr Zine El Abdine Ben Ali, minister in charge of national security; and Mahmoud ben Hsine, who is entrusted with a mission by the president of the Republic.

The session received the recent developments in the Mediterranean, which resulted in a military confrontation between the United States and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. His excellency the president expressed his deep concern over this situation and his regret over the development of the conflict from a legal dispute to a military clash. His excellency also expressed his hope that reason will ultimately prevail and that the parties concerned will be able to resolve this problem peacefully and spare the region any possible repercussions which might result. His excellency the president gave his directives for bolstering, consolidating and strengthening Tunisian defense systems in order to provide greater impregnability and stability for Tunisia.

WESTERN SAHARA

Communique Claims 8 Moroccans Killed

LD252051 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] A communique issued today by the Saharan Ministry of Information said 8 Moroccan soldiers were killed and (?19) others were injured during two attacks by units of the Saharan people's liberation army on 20 March against positions of the Moroccan forces north of Amgala and [name indistinct].

SOMALIA

PRC President, Delegation Depart for Madagascar

EA260758 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpts] PRC President Li Xiannian, together with his wife and accompanying delegation, departed the SDR for Madagascar at 1000 this morning at the conclusion of his official visit to Somalia.

In a brief statement at the airport, the PRC president said his visit to the SDR had been successful and that the talks he had held with SDR leaders will strengthen and promote bilateral cooperation in particular in its political, economic, cultural, agricultural, industrial, educational, and social aspects.

UGANDA

AFP: Museveni Shuffles Civil Servants

AB251901 Paris AFP in English 1839 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Kampala, March 25 (AFP) — President Yoweri Museveni Tuesday appointed a number of new permanent secretaries to government ministries and reshuffled and dropped others.

Mr Museveni announced 34 appointments in all at the permanent secretary level and said those incumbents whose names did not appear on the list "will be assigned other jobs".

AFP: Government Denies Arms Sales to Ex-Mau Maus

AB261040 Paris AFP in English 0943 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Kampala, March 26 (AFP) — The Ugandan Government has denied as a "wicked and malicious fabrication" a report here that Kenyan ex-Mau Mau fighters are involved in arms buying in Uganda and that some had been arrested.

The government said in a statement late Tuesday that it was not aware of any such arms trafficking, and that it would not allow its territory to be used to destabilise any neighbouring country, especially Kenya.

It described the report in the weekly *DIGEST* newspaper as a "wicked and malicious fabrication" and an attempt to "poison the excellent relations" between the two countries. The paper reported on Monday that ex-Mau Mau fighters from Kenya were buying up guns from former Ugandan Army soldiers at give-away prices in north-eastern Uganda and in southern Sudan. It said the arms were destined principally for the Kenyan towns of Nairobi, Nakuru and Nyeri, and named four people arrested at Busia on the Uganda-Kenya border in connection with the affair.

The *DIGEST* report, which was not taken up by the Kenyan press, apparently out of caution, came amid a complex debate in Kenya about the importance of the anti-colonial Mau Mau rebellion of the 1950's. The debate could have some present-day political ramifications, observers believe.

CAMEROON

Congolese Minister Conveys Message, Comments on Chad

AB251356 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Congolese Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Antoine Ndinga-Oba was received in audience this morning at the Unity Palace by Ferdinard Leopold Oyono, permanent secretary at the president's office. The Congolese minister bore a message from President Sassou-Nguesso to his Cameroonian counterpart, President Paul Biya. After the audience, the Congolese minister did not disclose the contents of the message. He simply talked about preparations for the upcoming meeting in Brazzaville on reconciliation of the Chadian people. Here is the Congolese foreign minister talking to Theodore Bong-Etoundi:

[Begin recording] [Ndinga-Oba] I brought a message from President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of the People's Republic of Congo to President Paul Biya, and, like all messages meant for heads of state, I cannot disclose its contents to reporters.

[Bong-Etoundi] Mr Minister, Brazzaville is preparing to host the meeting for the reconciliation of the Chadian people. How is the government [words indistinct]?

[Ndinga-Oba] The government is doing everything to place at the disposal of Chadian leaders the necessary means for them to come together to discuss problems affecting their country in order to find the necessary solution to the reconstruction of their country and the restoration of peace. This is in line with the wish expressed by the principal leaders of the country, especially by President Hissein Habre himself. We all want peace.

[Bong-Etoundi] Mr Minister, do you think this meeting is worth holding since we know that Ndjamena has just formed a new government of national union where all the various (?factions) are represented?

[Ndinga-Oba] I don't know whether your feeling is that today after the formation of this government, one can say that peace has been restored in Chad. If that is the general feeling, then I would say that this meeting is unnecessary, but all this depends on the Chadians themselves, and not on us. We do not want to force them to come together to discuss their dispute. We believe there is a problem to be solved, and the decision of Chadians themselves is the most crucial element in deciding whether or not it is necessary to come together and discuss the problem of peace and reconstruction of their country. Congo will only record this decision and report to the OAU. [end recording]

Loan Agreement Signed With FRG in Yaounde

AB251944 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1507 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Yaounde, 25 Mar (CAMNEWS/PANA) — A loan contract of DM33.6 million, that is about 5.04 billion CFA francs, and a technical cooperation agreement — with the GTZ (Deutche Gesellschaft Fur Technische Zusammenarbeit) [German Technical Corporation Organization] of West Germany —, involving a nonrefundable grant of DM3 million, that is 450 million CFA francs, were signed in Yaounde on Monday between the Federal Republic of Germany, which was represented by its ambassador to Yaounde, Herald Ganns, and the Cameroonian minister of planning and territorial development.

The loan will help finance the construction of 10,000-ton floating dock for the Republic of Cameroon. As for the nonrefundable grant from the GTZ, it will help upgrade the Jakiri Zootechnical and Veterinary National Training Center in the northwestern province.

The minister of planning and territorial development, Sadou Hayatou, took the opportunity offered him to thank the German side on behalf of the Cameroonian head of state, President Paul Biya, for its continued support to the development efforts being made by Cameroon, through the relations described as excellent which exist between the two countries.

CAR

AFP: Minister Orders Secondary Schools Closed

AB252146 Paris AFP in French 1744 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Bangui, 25 Mar (AFP) — CAR Minister of Education Jean-Paul Ngoupande today ordered the closure until further notice of secondary schools in Bangui which students have been boycotting since 14 March, it was announced in the CAR capital.

The minister also instructed the headmasters of schools in the provinces to close their schools should "an atmosphere of agitation" develop there. The first months of the year are usually troubled months in secondary schools, because it is during this period that scholarships for the next year are decided upon.

CHAD

Habre, GUNT's Goukouni To Hold Reconciliation Talks

AB260905 Paris AFP in English 0839 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Brazzaville, March 26 (AFP) — Reconciliation talks between Chadian leader Hissein Habre and Goukouni Oueddei, the head of the Libyan-backed GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] rebels based in northern Chad, will get under way this weekend in Loubomo, southwest Congo, reliable sources in the Congolese capital said Wednesday.

Mr Oueddei was expected to arrive here Wednesday whereas Mr Habre was due Thursday.

The meeting at the weekend will also be attended by Organisation of African Unity [OAU] Chairman Abdou Diouf, of Senegal, and Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, whom the OAU has designated as mediator in the Chadian conflict.

Chad is effectively cut in two by an east-west defensive "Red Line" protected by French forces, to prevent the rebels from moving further south.

Habre Reported Ready To Meet Opposition

AB241645 Dakar PANA in French 1356 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Bujumbura, 24 Mar (ABP-BUR/PANA) — "Chadian President Hissein Habre is ready to meet with the brothers of the opposition any time, anywhere, and without any conditions," Mr Maitine Djoumbe, the Chadian ambassador to Burundi with residence in Kinshasa, has stated.

The Chadian ambassador stressed that "the proposed meeting is in accordance with the constant desire of the government which has always wanted to find a peaceful and rapid solution to the tragedy tearing Chad apart." "We accept national reconciliation but reject all solutions of compromise," he continued.

Concerning the role of France with its new parliamentary majority, Mr Djoumbe declared: "It is not for us to take the place of the French authorities but it is a fact that it was at the request of the legitimate and legal government of Ndjamena and through respect for the age-old bonds uniting Chad and France that the latter is helping the Chadian people." Mr Djoumbe hoped that the Operation "Epervier" will be more active in the field "because, he said, "although in the fight on the ground the Chadian Armed Forces can control the situation because of their combat-readiness, courage, and determination to safeguard the territoral integrity, on the other hand they lack fighter planes to counter the Libyan Air Force."

Raising the question of Chadians now refugees in their own country, Mr Maitine Djoumbe asserted that "owing to the behavior of Libyan troops in the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti occupied area, the civil population, estimated at over 80 percent, took refuge in the remaining parts of the country under government control and abandoned homes, livestock, and date-palm plantations in its flight."

Questioned on Libyan participation in the combat, Mr Djoumbe stated that "their dead bodies are scattered all over the battlefield and that the FANT [Chadian National Armed Forces] were able to lay hands on five prisoners among whom were a captain and a sergeant. We are sorry, he said, but these prisoners will only be handed over to families when Libya withdraws its occupational troops from Chad."

Mr Maitine Djoumbe said that apart from the area occupied by the Libyan troops, there is total peace in the remaining part of the country under the control of the Chadian Government which signed a peace agreement last February with Colonel Kotiga who was operating in the south of the country."

From the economic point of view, Chad, according to Mr Maitine Djoumbe, however, recorded a fall in the revenue earned from its cotton production owing to the international economic situation and the fall in the prices of raw materials."

Cotton being the principal export product, any unfavorable international economic situation automatically affects it," he stressed.

Ndjamena Radio Comments on Cabinet Reshuffle

AB242215 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] There are 34 members in the new government of the Third Republic. The head of state yesterday signed two decrees. One was on the reshuffling of the Cabinet while the other was on the reshuffling of the National Consultative Council. These are two actions that symbolize the political development in our country. These are two actions that make Chad — despite Libya's permanent aggression — tread resolutely toward its destiny and hold its destiny in its own hands. The open-door-policy of the president of the Republic, El Hadj Hissein Habre, has borne its fruit and this observation cannot be contested. The materialization of this political development is the appointment of some patriots who signed peace agreements with the government into the new ruling team in Ndjamena. These patriots belong to various commando groups of the Action Coordination Committee of the Revolutionary Democratic Council [CAC-CDR] and the Chadian Democratic Front [FDT]. What is the significance of this Cabinet reshuffle? Over to you (Madianangar Fasole):

So, the Cabinet and the National Consultative Council were reshuffled yesterday. This reshuffle, which affects technical structures as well as political considerations, is in line with the concerns of Chadians to go further in the policy of national reconciliation and reconstruction. On the purely technical plane, the prominent place given to the Ministry of Justice demonstrates the desire of the authorities of the Third Republic to give a prominent place to justice in view of the search for justice and equality in our country. Still, on the technical plane, there have been changes in the appellations of some ministries: the Ministry of Finance and Equipment now becomes Ministry of Finance and Computer Technology. This demonstrates the desire to introduce modern technology into our financial management. Then, there is also the Ministry of Natural Disasters which now becomes the Ministry of Food Security and Natural Disasters. The Ministry of Economy and Commerce now gives way to the Ministry of Trade and Industry. This means already that the economy is [word indistinct]. Still on the technical plane, the Ministry of Information and Orientation [passage indistinct] now has a political adviser [passage indistinct]. As for the setting up of a ministry delegate to the Presidency charged with planning, the objective is to emphasize the priority of the government — since the advent of the Third Republic — which is to restore economic activities in Chad [passage indistinct].

On the political plane, one can note the arrival of eminent personalities of the former internal and external opposition into the new government and the National Consultative Council. They are now part of the ruling team. The terms of the agreements signed between the CAC-CDR and the government on the one hand, and the FDT and the government on the other, have been respected because the recent Libreville agreements between the government and the FDT and the CAC-CDR and the government on (?23) December in Libreville, stipulated that Cabinet reshuffling and appointment of new members into the National Consultative Council must take place within a period of 3 months. Today makes it exactly 3 months since the agreements were signed.

CONGO

OAU Chairman Diouf To Visit Brazzaville

AB231300 Dakar PANA in French 1205 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Brazzaville, 23 Mar (ACI/PANA) — Current OAU chairman, Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, will soon pay an official visit to Congo, it was learned from an official source in Brazzaville on Saturday.

This visit was announced on Saturday at the end of a meeting of the Political Bureau of the Congolese Labor Party. The report from this meeting does not state either the date or the purpose of the visit. But it is known that within the framework of the OAU, Presidents Diouf and Sassou-Nguesso consult each other regularly to find a negotiated solution to the Chadian conflict. The Congolese head of state has been charged by the pan-African organization to solve the Chadian crisis through negotiations between that country's government and opposition groups.

Friendship Committee Formed With Bulgaria

AB252200 Dakar PANA in French 1445 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Brazzaville, 25 Mar (ACI/PANA) — A friendship committee between Congo and Bulgaria was officially inaugurated yesterday in Brazzaville. Madam Antoinette Sassou-Nguesso, wife of the Congolese head of state, is its honorary president, while Hippolyte Kimbembe is the president.

According to Vital Balla, president of the Congolese Friendship Association with Peoples (ACAP), the creation of this committee is the result of a draft agreement signed between the ACAP and the Bulgarian Committee of Friendship with the Peoples of Africa and Asia. This committee, he added, constitutes an "efficient instrument" capable of fostering and developing mutual cooperation, solidarity, friendship, and understanding between the Congolese and Bulgarian peoples.

During the ceremony, Gergi Vladikov, the Bulgarian ambassador to Congo, expressed satisfaction with the excellent bonds of friendship and cooperation existing between the two countries.

RWANDA

AFP: Amnesty International To Inspect Prisons

AB201944 Paris AFP in English 1834 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Kigali, March 20 (AFP) — A team from the human rights organisation Amnesty International is to visit prisons in the small East African state of Rwanda next month, Justice Minister Jean-Marie Vianney Mugemana said here on Thursday.

Addressing prison directors, Mr Mugemana told them to give the delegation all necessary help and allow them to make any visits they should request. Rwanda had nothing to hide, he added.

There are around 12,000 inmates, eight of them political detainees, in Rwanda's 16 prisons and rehabilitation centres.

On March 3, Mr Mugemana announced that prisoners would be obliged to grow their own food, make uniforms for themselves and prison staff, and manufacture such items as furniture for government departments. The Amnesty visit is to begin in mid-April.

ZAIRE

Mobutu Receives Angolan, Congolese Officials

AB231812 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1300 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 21 Mar (AZAP) — The issue of the handing over of hostages by the rebel "UNITA" movement to the Red Cross on Zairian territory will not affect the relations of good neighborliness between Luanda and Kinshasa after the explanations given by the Executive Council to the Angolan Government.

This is the gist of the statements by Mr Pascual Luvualu, a member of the Political Bureau of the MPLA Central Committee and the special envoy of Angolan President dos Santos to Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko who received him in audience on Friday evening at Camp Tsahtshi. Mr Luvualu, who brought a message from the Angolan president to leader Mobutu, said the Zairian head of state gave him ample details on this affair from which it came out that the international Red Cross and UNITA acted without the knowledge of the Zairian authorities.

It will be recalled that at that time, the Executive Council reacted with firmness by ordering that the 44 UNITA soldiers, who penetrated Zairian territory under yet unclear circumstances in the company of the hostages they captured, to be disarmed and driven back to whence they came. On that occasion, Zaire reaffirmed its determination to continue to have relations of good neighborliness and confident cooperation with Angola on the basis of the ad hoc agreements concluded during the time of late President Neto and strengthened on the occasion of the visit to Kinshasa in 1985 by his successor, Jose Eduardo dos Santos. He also denounced UNITA maneuvers which try to imply a connivence between it and the Zairian authorities.

The head of state later received Mr Antoine Ndinga-Oba, the Congolese minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, who brought a verbal message from President Denis Sassou-Nguesso to President Mobutu Sese Seko. This message falls within the framework of regular consultations between the two heads of state on issues of common interest.

BURKINA FASO

10th ANAD Council of Ministers Session Ends

AB260930 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The 10th ordinary session of the Council of Ministers of the Nonagression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD], which opened on Sunday night in our capital, ended its deliberations last night after 3 days of sustained activities. The closing ceremony took place in the West African Economic Community [CEAO] Council of Ministers Hall. As at the opening session, representatives of the nine countries, that is, the seven member states of the ANAD and two countries with observer status — Benin and Guinea — were present.

The closing speech was given by Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani, minister of people's defense. After congratulating the participants for the serious work done for the success of this 10th session, he took stock of the outcome of the session.

[Begin Lingani recording] This session delt with an important policy document as well as with an administrative and financial document. The happy outcome of the deliberations shows the spirit of genuine solidarity, harmony, and maturity of all the member states of the ANAD. After examination of the documents, the Council of Ministers at a plenary session adopted several provisions and recommendations which will be submitted to the 7th summit of heads of state and governments for approval.

I sincerely wish to express my profound thanks and those of the executives of the 10th session of the Council of Ministers to all the delegations for their responsible, dynamic, and constructive participation in the deliberations and I hope that the documents emerging from our meeting will meet the approval of the 7th summit of heads of state and governments of our organization. [End recording]

Mauritanian, Beninese Leaders Arrive for CEAO Summit

AB252137 Dakar PANA in French 1840 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Ouagadougou, 25 Mar (PANA) — Beninese and Mauritanian heads of state Mathieu Kerekou and Maaouyia Sid Ahmed Ould Taya, as well as Niger Prime Minister Hamid Algabit have just arrived in Ouagadougou this afternoon to take part beginning tomorrow in the 11th summit of the West African Economic Community [CEAO].

The Niger prime minister will represent President Seyni Kountche, now ill in a hospital in Paris. The other heads of state of the CEAO member-states are expected tomorrow a few hours before the opening of the summit. They include Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, Ivorian President Houphouet-Boigny, and Malian head of state Moussa Traore. Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema, who will attend the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement summit, is also expected in the Burkinabe capital tomorrow.

Defense Withdraws From Trial of Diawara, Others

AB251516 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The 15th session of the Revolutionary People's Tribunal [TPR] of Ouagadougou has started. The trial of the delinquents of white collar crime opened this morning at the Maison du Peuple in Ouagadougou. There were at the bar about 15 persons accused of forgery, falsification, embezzlement, illicit self-enrichment, and so on. Following is a report by Daba Seremi:

[Begin Seremi recording] Yes, Francis Kabore, we have just returned from the Maison du Peuple where we all followed this first day of the 15th session of the Ouagadougou TPR which held a surprise for us: the withdrawal of the defense counsel of the main accused of the CEAO [West African Economic Community], that is Mohamed Tiekoura Diawara, Moussa Ngom, and Moussa Diakite. The spokesman of the defense counsel, who appeared to be the doyen, indicated that the texts of the TPR do not allow them to argue their case and asked the authorities to create what the counsel spokesman describes as more favorable conditions in order to make it possible for them to do their work. This was a surprise because everything had been done to ensure the normal holding of this trial. One may wonder why the counsel has waited for the beginning of the trial to make his request whereas special derogations had been adopted in order to enable the accused to be assisted by counsel. The counsel believes that there have been insufficient preliminary investigations whereas this CEAO affair has been in existence for such a long time.

In any case, the president of the tribunal replied that the tribunal was not competent to accept the request of the defense counsel. The latter therefore withdrew. The president of the tribunal, [Komi] Sambo, however stressed that in Burkina Faso, the TPR is competent to try all cases.

Thus, the trial of the CEAO case seems to be held up for the time being and everybody is awaiting what will follow. However, the spirit of solidarity which has always motivated the CEAO member-states will certainly unblock this affair in the interest of more than 35 million people who have to recover 6 billion CFA francs which is the fruit of their sweat. [end recording]

GHANA

Accra Urges U.S. To Stop 'Provocative Maneuvers'

AB251830 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] An official statement issued in Accra this evening said the Government of Ghana views with apprehension the armed hostilities which have broken out between Libya and the United States in the Gulf of Sidra. These hostilities are the direct consequences of the repeated provocative military exercises carried out by the Reagan administration in the area around the Gulf which Libya claims as part of its territorial waters. The government recalled the declaration by the OAU Council of Ministers at its 43d session in Addis Ababa last month in which the council condemned the provocation, threats, and acts of intimidation perpetrated against Libya by the U.S., and calls for an end to them.

The statement said: In the view of the government, any territorial dispute is best resolved by peaceful means, including resorting to the International Court of Justice in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. Unilateral demonstrations of force in disregard to the rights of the others only increases tension and poses a threat to international peace and security.

The government, therefore, appeals to all parties involved to use the utmost restraint to resolve the dispute peacefully. In particular, it urges the United States to put an immediate end to the provocative maneuvers in and around the Gulf of Sidra.

Radio Condemns U.S. Action

AB251451 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Sena Tsikata commentary]

[Text] The latest American military maneuvers in the Gulf of Sidra off the Libayn coast have resulted in the shooting down of 3 U.S. aircraft involved in the maneuvers. This was necessitated by the aircraft crossing the boundary dividing Libyan and the international waters in which the American 6th Fleet says it has been conducting its maneuvers for some time now. The fleet is made up of 30 ships, including 3 aircraft carriers, the largest that America has assembled in that part of the world. This is the fourth military maneuvers the Americans have held in the area, which is Libyan territory but which America claims to be international waters.

The latest exercise started when the Second World Forum for Resistance Against Imperialism, Zoinism and Racism was in session in Tripoli. It is the objective of the forum in the Libyan capital aimed at tackling the imperialism and Zionism activities in the world that has annoyed the United States into returning to the Gulf of Sidra, and this time, crossing into Libyan territory. Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had earlier warned the Americans that if they crossed into his territory, he would act, and the Americans did exactly that. Hence the shooting down of the 3 U.S. aircraft. American replied by shelling the Libyan town of Surt, which has been the target of American military maneuvers since it started its actions. This is beacuse the Gulf of Sidra contains very important industrial and military installations, and the Americans are bent on destroying this area in order to cripple Libya economically and militarily before launching its final onslaught on a progressive country whose only crime is identifying itself with national liberation movements and progressive governments all over the world.

The violation of Libyan territory is also aimed at diverting the attention of the Arab League which has just started its meeting in Tunis, from its agenda of tackling problems of the Arab world. Among pressing issues which would be discussed at the meeting will be the Iran-Iraq war, and how best to discuss ways of showing their solidarity with another Arab country under attack from an imperialist power.

It is quite clear that right from the onset, the aim of the American military maneuvers was to attack the town of Surt. This is the time for the Arabs to show their true solidarity with Libya by condemning the American activities in the Gulf of Sidra, which is threatening the Mediterranean. This is necessary to strengthen the Arab unity and forestall further clashes which could occur in the area. The whole of the Third World or nonaligned nations should also show their support for Libya. For, if the United States is allowed to get away with its actions against Libya, no Third World country is safe. Libya's independence and territoral integrity must be preserved. Libya's destiny is also the destiny of all the nonaligned world.

IVORY COAST

DPRK Photo, Art Exhibit Held in Abidjan 25-30 Mar

AB251058 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 25 Mar 86 p8

[Text] The opening of the exhibition of photos and art objects from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will take place at 1800 this afternoon at the National Library. This exhibition, which will end on 30 March, will present photos depicting the life of the Korean people as well as embroidery work and various art objects.

The public is cordially invited.

NIGER

Prime Minister Leaves for Ouagadougou Summits

AB251940 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Hamid Algabit, left Niamey this afternoon for Ouagadougou. While in the Burkinabe capital, Mr Algabit will attend the summits of the heads of state of Liptako-Gourma Authority, the CEAO [West African Economic Community], and the ANAD [Non-Aggression and Defense Aid Agreement].

NIGERIA

Council of State Holds First Meeting of 1986

AB251415 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] A meeting of the national Council of State has opened in Lagos. The meeting, which is the first to be held this year, is being presided over by President Ibrahim Babangida. Among issues of national interest being discussed at the meeting is the local government reforms to be introduced on the 1st of next month.

Former Foreign Ministers To Participate in Meeting

AB251946 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Eight former Nigerian foreign ministers have been invited to participate in the All-Nigerian Conference on Foreign Policy scheduled to take place in Kuru, Plateau State, next month. They include retired Major General Joseph Garba, Professor Ishaya Audu, Professor Ibrahim Gambari, and Alhaji Nuhu Bayero. Others are Dr Arikpo Nwachukwu retired Major General Henry Adefope, and Chief Emeka Anyanwu.

The chairman of the organizing committee of the conference, Mallam Haroun Adamu, told newsmen in Lagos today that the contributions of the former public officers would greatly enhance the understanding of the country's foreign policy position. Mallam Adamu said the committee has already received more than 100 memoranda and the summaries of some papers considered to be worthy of publication are to be used as conference documents.

The 1-day conference which comes up on the 1st of next month, is to be held in plenary and committee sessions. The All-Nigerian Conference on Foreign Policy was convened by President Ibrahim Babangida [words indistinct] of the country's external relations for the next 15 years.

Finance Ministry Group Leaves for Talks in London

AB260755 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] A delegation led by the minister of finance, Dr Chu Okongwu, has left Lagos for London to hold discussions with the country's creditor banks and financial institutions. Before leaving, the minister told newsmen at Murtala Muhammed Airport that the federal government was making plans to reschedule the country's foreign debt. He said the process of rescheduling debts ifas a continuous one, and that discussions had earlier been held. The minister said, however, that the delegation would want to know what the creditors have in the offing before any domestic programs could be determined. Dr Okongwu stated that Nigeria was still holding discussions with the IMF despite the rejection of its loan since she was a member.

The minister and his entourage are expected back on Friday.

SENEGAL

Diouf Receives DPRK Vice Premier, Saudi Minister

AB242203 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpt] On Saturday afternoon, the head of state, President Abdou Diouf, received in audience his excellency Kim Yong-nam, the DPRK vice prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, in the presence of Ibrahima Fall, minister of foreign affairs, and his excellency Hwang Chol-sun, the DPRK ambassador to Senegal.

The head of state also received Ali Hasan al-Sha'ir, minister of information of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in the presence of Djibo Ka, minister of communication, and his excellency Skykh Abdallah at-Tubayshi, Saudi Arabia's ambassador to Senegal.

This morning, the head of state went to the National Assembly where he presided over the opening ceremony of the first ordinary session of the Social and Economic Council.

ANGOLA

'Official Source' Denies UNITA Attack on Gulf Oil

MB261333 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The attack which UNITA claims to have carried out against the Malongo petroleum installations, in Cabinda Province, last Monday was denied by an official source speaking to ANGOP in Luanda today.

The source told ANGOP that this alleged attack amounts to no more than a lie by the puppets, who seek to gain propaganda advantages by claiming spectacular actions — which are in fact never carried out — which some Western media like very much to publish.

That source said life and work within the installations of the Gulf Oil company in Cabinda Province continue under normal conditions. This can be confirmed by the U.S. citizens who work there.

AFP, which carried the news of UNITA's false action, today published a statement by a spokesman of Chevron, which operates in Cabinda Province, according to whom no attack had been made on the Malongo petroleum installations. Murray Shilton, the Chevron spokesman, categorically denied UNITA's claimed attack.

[Words indistinct] was received by U.S. President Ronald Reagan, Jonas Savimbi, the head of the UNITA armed bandits in the pay of the racist South African regime, said that the Cabinda petroleum installations were one of his principal targets. This statement was widely quoted by the international media.

The aid that the U.S. Administration gives the Angolan counterrevolutionaries will also be used against U.S. interests in Angola and it may result in the death of U.S. nationals, a number of international news agencies, newspapers, and radios have warned.

Envoy to Portugal Urges Firm Position on Kidnapping

MB241309 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The Portuguese newspaper *O DIARIO* has stated that the policy of that country's government toward African countries was dictated by the U.S. Administration. *O DIARIO* noted that the Lisbon government's stance is generally indentified with the U.S. viewpoint. A clear proof of this is the fact that, like the U.S. Administration, the Portuguese Government did not condemn the kidnapping of its own citizens in Andrada.

What is more, Mwaete Joao Baptista, the Angolan ambassador in Lisbon, has said that our country still hopes that the Portuguese Government would assume a realistic position as soon as possible toward UNITA activities in Lisbon. He added that it was strange that the bandits in the pay of Pretoria should continue to be allowed to propagate terrorist actions from the Portuguese capital, actions which are carried out in Angola even against Portuguese citizens. Ambassador Mwaete Joao Baptista pointed out that the Angolan Government still hoped that Portugal would adopt a firm position with regard to the kidnapping of Portuguese citizens in Andrada, Lunda Norte Province, by UNITA bandits.

Luvualu Says Relations With Zaire Remain Good

MB241300 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Pascual Luvualu, a member of the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party, who has been in Kinshasa to deliver a message from the Angolan head of state to his Zairian counterpart Mobutu Sese Seko, told Zairian television that the recent events would not affect the relations of good neighborliness between Angola and Zaire.

According to AFP, Comrade Luvualu said that he was briefed by the Zairian president on the entry of the UNITA puppets who had kidnapped foreign workers in Lunda Norte into his country.

LESOTHO

2 Former Cabinet Ministers Released From Detention

MB261418 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Two cabinet ministers in former Chief Jonathan's government have been released in Lesotho. The former information and broadcasting minister, Desmond Sixishe, and former secretary to Chief Jonathan, Antonio Tsike, have been released by the new military government after spending 15 days in detention.

The chairman of the Military Council earlier said charges would be brought against top officials of the former government, once police investigations were completed. Mr Sixishe said he was interrogated for only 15 minutes during his time in detention.

Chairman Lekhanya Speaks on Military Role

MB241236 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The chairman of the Military Council and Council of Ministers, Major General J.M. Lekhanya, says a true soldier is the one who does not rob banks, rob individuals, or murder them, but is the one who ensures that people and their property are protected. Maj Gen Lekhanya said this yesterday in Quthing at the official opening of the extension of the Quthing Sheep Stud. He said the sheep stud would benefit the people of Quthing and urged those in charge of the stud to take care of it.

Maj Gen Lekhanya said that according to reports from soil conservation experts the country loses between 2 and 7 percent of its soil through erosion. For this reason he urged the people of Quthing to engage with more determination in soil conservation activities. He stressed that agricultural development tops the list of all fields of development in this country. The chairman of the Military Council assured the people of Quthing that their needs would be given urgent consideration. He also told the people that there has been no report from the auditor general since 1978 and the country's deficit is estimated at 100 million maluti. He said that those responsible for these discrepencies will have to appear before the courts of law. He added that some of them were already being questioned. He said it is his feeling that the system of wool and mohair marketing should be revised and that there should be three levels of payment to wool and mohair producers. He assured the people that this would definitely happen.

Maj Gen Lekhanya went on to say that the military had to take power because there was confusion in the past administration and this confusion was the result of the politics of hatred. Maj Gen Lekhanya said that true peace and reconciliation could be achieved though dialogue between neighbors. He urged the people not to revenge but to forget their past differences if true peace is to be achieved.

The chairman of the Military Council said chiefs were powerless in the last administration and the general situation in the country was chaotic because of self-seekers who wielded power. He said major steps were being taken to harness Lesotho's abundant waters so that it can be used for irrigation. He revealed that there is already cash set aside for water supply projects in the Quthing district and work is to start soon.

Maj Gen Lekhanya said that military rule will be withdrawn as soon as true peace and reconciliation prevail in the country. Maj Gen Lekhanya was accompanied by members of Military Council and the Council of Ministers. The rally was attended by thousands of enthusiastic people who welcomed him with songs and praises.

MOZAMBIQUE

Source. MNR Trains in, Gets Aid From Malawi

AU261034 Paris AFP in English 1033 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Lisbon, March 26 (AF) — The rebels of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) train in the south of neighbouring Malawi and receive most of their supplies from that country, a Mozambican military source told the Portuguese news agency ANOP.

The source said that MNR guerrillas infiltrated into Mozambique's northern Tete, Zambezi and Niassa Provinces along the valley of the Zambezi River, where the rebels have shown increasing activity in recent months, ANOP reported Wednesday.

While supply flights from South Africa had not been detected for about a year, they were increasingly frequent from Malawi, the source said.

The conservative Malawi Government has always denied assisting the rebels fighting the Marxist government in Maputo, but Mozambican military sources quoted by ANOP said that "certain circles" in Malawi were giving the MNR substantial support.

Mozambican President Samora Machel visited Malawi less than two years ago to ask head of state Kamuzu Banda for cooperation in fighting the MNR.

Machel Calls for Action Against 'Racketeering'

MB230807 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] President Samora Machel has called for a drastic offensive to wipe out racketeering in Mozambique society. The president was speaking today in Maputo at the second conference of the National Youth Organisation. He called on young Mozambicans to repel the onslaught of the class enemy and to defend the socialist sectors of the economy.

President Machel warned that the class struggle is sharpening in Mozambique. He said Portuguese colonialism had not allowed a national bourgeoisie to develop in Mozambique so that at independence, there was only an aspiring bourgeoisie. The president said these people had seen the state as a means of accumulating capital and turning themselves into a true bourgeoisie. He said the black market served the same aims — capital accumulation. President Machel said the arrogance now displayed by racketeers was an insult to honest Mozambican workers. He described the racketeers as blood suckers and said it was time to deal a harsh blow against them. The president drew a distinction between racketeers and honest private businessmen. He said the government had always guaranteed the existence of a private sector, but the dominant sectors of the economy should be cooperatives and those owned by the state.

THE STAR: Military Initiative Lies With MNR

MB201032 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 19 Mar 86 p 13

[By John d'Oliveira, editor, *STAR*'s Africa News Service]

[Text] Despite regular claims of military successes, the civil war in Mozambique is going badly for the Maputo Government.

According to information compiled by diplomatic and intelligence sources in southern Africa, the military initiative now clearly lies with the rebel Mozambique National Resistance (MNR).

Today, the MNR is in a much stronger position than before the signing of the Nkomati Accord in March 1984. It is by far the most aggressive of the warring parties. Every month, it becomes more aggressive as it steps up both the frequency and the scope of its activities.

In 1984, it is estimated the MNR initiated about 60 percent of the deliberate contacts between the two sides. Most estimates this year suggest that more than 85 percent are now initiated by the MNR. In December, while 10 MNR bases were attacked, the rebels themselves attacked twice as many government military bases.

These statistics confirm that the Mozambique defence force (FAM) has been forced into a purely defensive role.

In 1983 the number of "incidents" averaged about 100 a month. By 1984, the number was running at about 150 a month, by 1985, 200 a month, and this year the average is approaching 250 a month.

It is understood that the MNR was involved in a record number of 350 "incidents" in November, last year.

Although it is difficult to assess accurately the number of casualties generated by the bush war, there is evidence that at least five FAM soldiers now die for every two MNR guerillas.

Apart from anything else, events in Mozambique have sadly disillusioned the country's allies. In June, last year, the Frontline States agreed to a military assistance programme for Mozambique which would have involved Zimbabwean, Zambian and Tanzanian troops in a combined push to smash the MNR "bandits" once and for all.

As a result, Zimbabwe increased its military presence in Mozambique from the 4,000 troops guarding the Beira-Mutare corridor (effectively Zimbabwe's road, rail and pipeline links with the sea) to about 12,000. A small proportion of the troops remained in Zimbabwe, just across the Mozambique border.

Tanzania committed about 2,000 tropps to the Mozambique war, but these never moved far south of the Tanzanian border.

Although Zambian military convoys have been seen in Mozambique's Tete Province (adjoining Zambia), there is no evidence that Zambian combat troops have been involved in Mozambique.

The high point of this international military co-operation came in August, last year, when the comparatively well-trained, well-equipped, well-paid Zimbabweans spearheaded the attack on Casa Banana, the MNR headquarters at Gorongosa, in central Mozambique, just north of Beira.

The MNR was driven out of Casa Banana and documents were seized which purported to confirm South African Defence Force assistance for the MNR, in contravention of the Nkomati Accord. These documents formed the basis for a vigorous, continuing attack on the South African Government by Maputo.

However, once the Zimbabwean troops withdrew to the Beira-Mutare corridor and handed over operations at Gorongosa to FAM, the MNR reappeared. By the middle of last month, they had recaptured Casa Banana.

This was a major blow to the Maputo Government and a serious disillusionment for the Zimbabweans — and for Mozambique's other allies.

Since then, Zimbabwe has withdrawn 5,000 of its soldiers; the rest have adopted a defensive posture and pressure is increasing on Zimbabwe's prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, to reduce the number even further. It is also understood that the Tanzanians have moved their troops out of Mozambique.

SOUTH AFRICA

Lesotho's Lekhanya Arrives for 'Working Visit'

MB261031 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1009 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 26, SAPA — Major General Justice M. Lekhanya, chairman of the Lesotho Military Council, and members of his government landed at D.F. Malan Airport for a "working visit" to the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, today.

They were met by the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, and senior members of his department.

Gen Lekhanya was accompanied by Colonel T. Letsie, a member of the Military Council; Mr L.B. Monyake, minister of foreign affairs; Mr E.R. Sekhonyana, minister of finance; Mr L.A. Jane, minister of water affairs, energy and mines; and Mr T Thabane, secretary of the Military Council.

The delegation departed immediately for the state president's office, Tuynhuys, where talks will be conducted during a working lunch and may be followed by a joint statement from the two governments.

Gen Lekhanya and his delegation are scheduled to leave Cape Town soon after the lunch.

Meets P.W. Botha, Departs

MB261258 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1256 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 26, SAPA — The six-man Lesotho Government delegation, led by Major General Justin M. Lekhanya, chairman of the Military Council, left Cape Town after a 90-minute working lunch with the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, today.

A brief written statement was issued on behalf of the two governments in which they expressed agreement on the need to finalise the Lesotho Highland Water Project and to consider "appropriate official representation" in each other's countries.

General Lekhanya's brief, unheralded visit followed a round of negotiations between the countries foreign, finance and agricultural ministers on Monday.

It is the first by a Lesotho Government leader since two successive visits by Dr Leabua Jonathan in 1966 and 1967 to Dr H.F. Verwoerd and his successor, Mr John Vorster.

According to the statement issued today by the Department of Foreign Affairs on behalf of the two governments, they "emphasised their adherence to the principle of mutual respect and non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states."

"They reaffirmed that they would not allow their territories to be used for the planning and execution of acts of terrorism against the other," the statement said.

The statement said the governments agreed on a need to cooperate "in the interest of the peoples of both countries" and that lasting peace and stability were of primary importance for the economic development of their two countries as well as the whole southern African region.

To achieve this, practical forms of cooperation in economic development, food production, trade, transport, health, tourism and training, would be examined.

"A main feature of the discussions was the Lesotho Highland Water Project.

"The two governments agreed in principle that this project is to the benefit of both countries and will contribute to their economic progress," the statement said.

The governments hoped that "the few outstanding aspects would soon be resolved to mutual satisfaction."

The two leaders had also discussed the need for "appropriate" official representation in each country, "to serve the interests of each other's citizens more effectively and expeditiously and also to manage the envisaged mutual projects." "It was agreed that this question will be further considered by the two governments," the statement said.

Pik Botha Meets With Lesotho Counterpart

MB241626 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says the Governments of South Africa and Lesotho still have to examine whether agreement can be reached on structures which will lead to more effective cooperation between them. Mr Botha was speaking in Cape Town after meeting with his Lesotho counterpart, Mr Lengolo Monyake.

He told reporters that the two governments had agreed that cooperation had to take place on a realistic and constructive basis. Mr Botha said South Africa and her neighbor had many interests and objectives in common.

Asked whether security affairs had been raised at the meeting, Mr Botha said that South Africa and Lesotho agreed on the international principle that neither country would permit its territory to be used for the perpetration of violence against the other. Referring to the possible drafting of a written treaty dealing with the matter, Mr Botha said that both governments believed that if there was a firm understanding on the matter between them, then a written treaty would not necessarily be more effective.

Le Grange: Memorandum 'Unsubstantiated Allegations'

MB241814 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1752 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 24, SAPA — The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, today refused to comment on what he called unsubstantiated allegations and claims submitted to him by a delegation of women's and welfare organisations.

The memorandum, the minister said, contained a series of allegations regarding police abuse, "but lacks detail such as places and times of events and names and addresses of complainants."

"It is unfair that the South African police should be subjected publicly to such serious allegations and for which it cannot defend itself until it has had the opportunity to investigate and evaluate the true facts.

"It is yet another example of how untested, unsubstantiated and one-sided allegations are made public in an obvious bid to discredit the police, not only locally but also abroad," Mr le Grange said.

Buthelezi Blames Durban Arson on Far Left

MB241550 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The chief minister of KwaZulu, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, has condemned the incidents of arson at the University of Natal in Durban. Chief Buthelezi said in the KwaZulu legislative assembly in Ulundi that the "No indaba" slogan painted on the wall of the university indicated clearly to him from which quarter the attack had come. He said it was the far left that was most threatened by the KwaZulu-Natal negotiations, and this kind of attack followed the pattern of violence initiated by the ANC in exile and its allies to make the country ungovernable.

Atteridgeville Mayor Says Police Stopping Deliveries

MB241538 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1513 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 24, SAPA — The mayor of Atteridgeville, Mr S.M. Mahlangu, today condemned the stopping by security forces of local traders' vehicles from transporting foodstuffs and other supplies from the entrance of the township into the township, and he questioned the legality of the action.

Mr Mahlangu said in a statement, the transportation of the goods had become necessary "because the suppliers are not prepared to make deliveries at the shops after previous incidents when some delivery vehicles were stoned and burnt."

"It is our opinion that the police blockade of the local traders' vehicles will, if continued, cause more inconvenience and hardships for our residents, especially in the light of the current consumer boycott. This may lead to a heightening of the tensions in the town (Atteridgeville) and possibly rioting," Mr Mahlangu said.

The town council of Atteridgeville "does not believe that that kind of action could result in any alleviation of the consumer boycott." Instead, Mr Mahlangu said, it would damage the image of the police in the eyes of the residents.

"The police have in the past been requested to enter into direct negotiations with everybody concerned to find a solution to problems and not act in a manner that will offend the public," he said.

A spokesman for the Police Directorate of Public Relations refuted the allegation and said no vehicles had been prevented from making deliveries. Drivers had been told that the police would protect them as far as possible, but that they entered the township at their own risk.

Appeals for End to Vehicle Hijacks

MB241532 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1517 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 24, SAPA — The mayor of Atteridgeville town council, Mr S.M. Mahlangu, today appealed to Atteridgeville youths to refrain from "hijacking and climbing and hanging on council vehicles and other vehicles, stoning and burning them."

Mr Mahlangu said in a statement that eight-year-old Robert Mabena of Atteridgeville was injured last week when a group of youths were seen "running from behind and on the sides of the council's water-tanker — jumping on and off the moving vehicle."

The injured boy was taken to Kalafong Hospital where he died, Mr Mahlangu said.

In his appeal to Atteridgeville youths, Mr Mahlangu said: "The difficult times we are all going through require of everybody to act responsibly to avoid malicious gossip-mongering and propagandist pamphleteering which result in victimisation of innocent people, division in the community and drumming up of violent emotions which set black against black."

Viljoen: Population 78 Percent Black by 2020

MB241543 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The minister of education and development aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, says within a timeframe of 34 years, the South African population will be 78 percent black. Thus, teacher training is quite important for everyone in South Africa. Dr Viljoen made these remarks at a teacher graduation ceremony at Sebokeng Teacher Training College in the East Rand. He said his department will make annual adjustments to cater for the anticipated 50,000 students per year increase of students. This means building up 60 schools per year, and providing 60 headmasters per year.

Nine AZAPO Officials Detained in Past Week

MB252007 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2005 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 25, SAPA — Nine office bearers of the Azanian People's Organisation [AZAPO] were detained this week, AZAPO said in a statement to SAPA tonight. Among them are Mr George Wauchope, secretary general, and Mr Pendelani Nefolovhodwe, head of the community development secretariat of AZAPO, the statement claimed.

"These detentions are an indication of a well-orchestrated manoeuvre to frustrate and destablise the forthcoming AZAPO planning congress to be held in Durban over the Easter weekend where crucial decisions will be taken about the intensification of disciplined resistence against racial oppression," the statement said.

Mr Wauchope and Mr Nefolovhodwe were leaving a hall in Namakgale near Tzaneen where they had addressed a large crowd on Sunday to commemorate "Heroes Day" (March 21) when they were allegedly detained by the Lebowa police.

They are still being held at the Namagkale police cells and have been refused visits, according to the AZAPO statement. Detained with them are Mr Mmutle Phafha, Mr Jake Maphabathe and Mr Oupa Maleka.

Earlier, in Bekkersdal, in the western Transvaal members of the South African Defence Force are alleged to have detained Mr John Mnguni and Mr Jacob Mokoane, both officials of the Bekkersdaal branch of AZAPO, the statement said. Mr Makoane was reported to be in hospital where he is being treated for dog bites sustained when he was being held

At the Ginsberg location near King Williams Town Mr Lungas Lifune, chairman, and Mr Mcedisi Ngoloyi, treasurer of the local branch were fetched from the home of the late Mr Steve Biko and detained yesterday morning.

Restriction Orders on Issel, Manuel Lifted

MB260546 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2159 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] [No date line as received] — The restriction orders on community leaders Mr Johnny Issel and Mr Trevor Manuel have been lifted after being found invalid "for technical reasons" by the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange.

Mr Issel was restricted for three years in 1983 and Mr Manuel for five years last November, both under the Internal Security Act.

A lawyer for the two men was told today by a member of the deputy state attorney's office that Mr le Grange had "conceded that the orders were of no force or effect."

The lawyer, Mr Ebrahim Mohamed, was told that Mr le Grange had found the restriction notices to be invalid as they did not comply with the provisions of the Internal Security Act. Mr Mohamed said the minister had made this finding after receiving notice from Mr Issel and Mr Manuel that they would bring a court application to declare the orders invalid.

Mr Mohamed said this notice had been given "following the recent Supreme Court decision invalidating the banning order of Mr Mkhuseli Jack."

Mr Jack's order was set aside when it was found that Mr Le Grange had not stated reasons for issuing the order.

A spokesman for Mr le Grange confirmed yesterday that the restriction notices of the two men were no longer in force. He said that in the light of the appeal court decision of April 20 invalidating the detention orders of 16 people, the order had been withdrawn "for technical reasons."

The appeal court declared the detention orders of the 16 invalid after finding that Mr le Grange had insufficient grounds for the detentions.

In terms of their restrictions, Mr Issel and Mr Manuel were prevented from visiting educational institutions, participating in publications and were restricted to their magisterial districts.

Mr Issel said the lifting of his order would enable him "to contribute, unfettered, to a peaceful and just society. I think the government has to come to terms with negotiating with authentic leaders. The restrictions on all these leaders have to be removed."

Restrictions on Durban's Last Banned Person Dropped
MB260550 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0500 GMT
26 Mar 86

[Text] In Durban, the banning order on the city's last remaining listed person has been dropped. He is Rowley Arenstein, who is also the longest-serving banned person in South Africa. Carmel Rickard has details.

[Rickard]Since 1951, Rowley Arenstein has been a listed person, and was first banned in 1953. From 1960 until yesterday he has been either banned, house-arrested, or in jail. Following several appeal court decisions last week, his lawyers wrote to the minister of law and order, threatening to go to court unless the minister admitted that the bans were invalid. A letter from the minister yesterday said that for technical reasons, they were invalid. As in the case of other banned people whose orders have been dropped this week, this still means the minister may reword banning orders and serve new restrictions. In the case of Mr Arenstein, he may still not be quoted, as he is a listed person, but it does mean he may leave Durban without special persimssion to attend gatherings, and go for the first time into KwaMashu and Umlazi, all activities prohibited by his banning orders.

Ciskei Ex-Minister To Be Tried for Subversion
MB241910 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1904 GMT
24 Mar 86

[Text] Zwelitsha, March 24, SAPA — A former Ciskei cabinet minister, Mr B. Myataza and nine other people from Sada near Whittiesea were each granted a R1,000 bail in the Zwelitsha regional court today.

The case was postponed because the blind ex-cabinet minister is in hospital. They were not asked to plead and no evidence was led. In previous appearances they were refused bail.

The accused are Mr Myataza, 76, Mr J.N. Mdlalo, 75, Mrs holda Mdwaba, 50, Mr S. Sishuba, 47, Mr M. Sigabi, 37, Mr S. Mayekiso, 37, Mr V. Panya, 23, Mr X. Malobola 33, Mr V. Shange, 27 and Mr D. James, 25. They are charged with subversion.

Allegations against the men include:

On August 30 Mr Myataza addressed a meeting at Mhlotshana High School telling scholars to publicly continue the struggle for liberation. He further encouraged the scholars not to let the police roam around the townships without killing them.

Mr Mayekiso told scholars not to attend school until such time that those of them who were detained were released by the police.

Mr Shange gave a speech in which he said Mr Sebe was a stooge.

Mr Myataza insulted the police by accusing them of being uncircumcised and of killing children.

Mr Myataza, Mr Mdlalo, Mr Panya, Mr Shange, Mr Malobola, Mrs Mdwaba and Mr James allowed themselves to be elected to form a residents association to handle grievances discussed (as received).

This committee encouraged residents to treat the police as "terrorists and to burn anyone who corroborated with the police as a spy."

Conditions of bail are that they are not to attend or address gatherings of more than 10 people, they may not attend or address funeral services without the permission of the investigating officer, they are prohibited from entering educational institutions and may not enter the district of Whittlesea.

Port Elizabeth Approves Opening All Beaches
MB260944 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0941 GMT
26 Mar 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, March 26, SAPA — The Port Elizabeth City Council last night decided by 14 votes to seven to open all beaches under its jurisdiction to all races. If approved by the administrator of the Cape, this will be effective from July1.

It was the second time the council debated this issue. Both the mayor, Mr Ben Olivier, and the Deputy mayor, Mr Solly Rubin, voted in favour of the motion tabled by Mr Ivan Krigs.

Yesterday the divisional council of Dias, including Port Elizabeth and surrounding areas, recommended that a 3.5 km length of coastline near the Willows Holiday resort outside Port Elizabeth be desegregated. This means that the entire divisional coastline from Noordhoek to Schoenmakerskop, except the whites-only Willows Resort, will be open to all races, subject to the approval of the administrator.

Students of 3 Universities Support Meeting ANC

MB251006 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2014 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 24, SAPA — About 6,100 students at three English-speaking universities in South Africa have so far voted almost overwhelmingly in favour of a National Union of South African Students (NUSAS) executive proposal that they visit the African National Congress in Lusaka soon.

At a meeting of about 1,100 students at the University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg today, the majority of students at a lunchtime meeting voted in favour of the NUSAS proposals. There are about 3,500 students registered at the university.

Miss Sandy Jocelyn, a member of the Students Representative Council (SRC), said there were 82 votes against and 38 abstentions.

A motion, put to the students by SRC president Mr Keven Orrien, in part read: "It is noted that there have been a number of surveys conducted which indicate widespread support for the ANC.

"There are a number of security laws which prevent knowledge about the ANC. We have to consult with the ANC if solutions are to be found about the conflict in South Africa," he said.

A meeting of students of the University of Natal in Durban to vote on the NUSAS proposals today was postponed until Wednesday following the fire bomb attacks on four departments — applied social science, social work, political science and history —on Friday night. Extensive damage was caused.

SRC president, Miss Meryl Plasket, said tonight that about 2,000 students had held a meeting to discuss what was to be done about the fires.

About 2,000 students at the University of Cape Town on Wednesday voted overwhelmingly in favour of meeting the ANC.

A further 3,000 students at the University of the Witwatersrand on Thursday also voted in favour of the proposals. There were 38 votes against and 32 abstentions.

KwaZulu Applies for Decentralization Incentives

MB241541 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1409 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 24, SAPA — KwaZulu has applied to the government for industrial decentralisation incentives at Madadeni and Newcastle to be equalised so that industry can be attracted to Newcastle.

This was announced in the KwaZulu legislative assembly today by the chief minister, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, who said people in the Madadeni-Osizweni area desperately needed employment.

Newcastle had ample serviced industrial land available and there was little point in spending public money developing the infrastructure at Madadeni simply because the incentives to industrialists were higher there.

Dr Marius Spies, executive director of the KwaZulu finance and investment corporation, which administers the Madadeni industrial estate, said the application had been made in collaboration with the Newcastle Town Council.

Newcastle had 122.3 ha of proclaimed industrial land available, while further expansion at Madadeni would require additional investment in infrastructure and the relocation of several individuals holding title to the demarcated land — which would take time.

He said the present differential between incentives at Madadeni and Newcastle meant that a small factory establishing itself at Madadeni and employing 150 people, would be better off by R1 million over a seven-year period.

COSATU's Naidoo Comments on New Union

MB191717 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 19 Mar 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] A big question mark hangs over a new black union being formed in South Africa. The United Union of Workers of South Africa is due to be formally launched in May, but officials of other black unions, such as the Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU], claim that it is just a front for Chief Gatsha Buthelezi's Inkatha Zulu movement, a claim hotly denied by Chief Buthelezi.

On the line to Durban, Julian Boudger asked COSATU's secretary general, Jay Naidoo, what, according to him, the links were between the new union and Inkatha.

[Begin recording] [Naidoo] We believe that there is a very direct link between Inkatha and the KwaZulu government and the formation of this new union. The press conference to announce the new union was convened yesterday by a senior member of the legislative assembly of the KwaZulu government and that is ample evidence of the involvemnt of Inkatha in the formation of this union.

[Boudger] Chief Buthelezi has actually denied that Inkatha has any direct connection with the union. Are you aware of that?

[Naidoo] We are not convinced by this denial. We have seen evidence in day to day activity of members, senior members of their legislative assembly, councillors who fall under the KwaZulu governent, all actively trying to promote the new union. You see instances like in the Empangeni area, where councillors for a part of the Inkatha structures have denied us access as COSATU to hold and... [changes thought] stadia to hold meetings so we can see a very direct involvement of Inkatha in the formation of this union.

[Boudger] What motive, do you think, Inkatha might have in setting up such a union?

[Naidoo] We do not believe that it will have substantial success. Obviously, we are disturbed by the possibilities of division, we believe that the motive for forming the new union is to establish for Inkatha a constituency among workers, we are firmly in the belief that our organization is strong enough to withstand such attacks, and we are confident that we will strengthen the organization of COSATU in Natal.

[Boudger] So you do not see the union as a major threat to COSATU?

[Naidoo] We do not see the union as a major threat because the ways in which they have formed the union have actually made workers very suspicious of this union.

[Boudger] Now, Inkatha has said that it has been canvassing membership and says that the initial reaction among workers has been one of overwhelming support. Do you say that that is a fabrication on their part?

[Naidoo] Again, we would like to deny that. At yesterday's press conference, they could give no evidence of any factory which they have organized or are recognised, they could give no evidence of any membership that they have. So again I think it's very much a union that is on paper.

[Boudger] Now, Chief Buthelezi has said that the union was formed by disaffected COSATU members who were not happy with COSATU leadership and who said that COSATU's tactics were negative and destructive, especially in reference to policy on foreign disinvestment.

[Naidoo] We would like to very strongly deny this. As trade unionists, we have a very strong commitment to democracy and our greatest achievement has been to build structures where our membership and leadership express their views. All decisions are based on mandates we receive from our membership. In response to our strategies being negative and destructive, we would like to remind the accusers of COSATU that they themselves are very blind to the economic and political realities of South Africa. In relation to our policy on disinvestment, we would like to say that as the largest trade union movement in South Africa we have seen no substantial evidence that the policy of constructive engagement is a real change or a real force for change.

COSATU Establishes Witwatersrand Region

MB241157 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1044 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 24, SAPA — The Confederation [as received] of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) established its Witwatersrand region at a conference at the weekend. The new region becomes the grouping of trade union's second largest operation in the country. The congress was held in Kathlehong on Saturday and was followed yesterday by a rally attended by between 3000 and 4000 people.

The new region encompasses 18 trade unions in the Witwatersrand area and the congress was attended by 640 delegates. Mr Mamood Fadel was elected as the vice chairman, while Mr Ronald Mofokeng was voted in as treasurer. Mr Bangi Solo was elected as the region's acting secretary.

At a news conference in Johannesburg today, Mr Nkuma said that apart from the establishment of the Witwatersrand regions and the election of office bearers, little progress was made at the congress as time would not permit any resolutions to be passed.

Mr Nkuma did say, however, that informal discussions were held on a number of issues such as the national education crisis and the establishment of May 1 as a paid holiday.

Officials Call for Unity

MB241231 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2219 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 23, SAPA — Between 8000 and 10000 people attended a meeting today to hear militant calls for unity and action at the official western Cape launch of the 600,000-strong Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU).

COSATU president, Mr Elijah Barayi, called on workers and students to unite to bring down the South African Government. He said workers would do battle with the security forces if necessary, but "we also say let us sit down and talk. The time has come for the government to sit down and talk to the workers, because this land will be ruled by the workers."

He said that "from today" workers should refuse to pay taxes "to buy more casspirs, more bullets" and must cease paying rent on their "matchbox township houses."

At the official launch of COSATU in Durban in December, he said, the federation gave the government six months in which to scrap the pass laws. "If the government does not listen, we will burn our passes, because it is through these books that we are made slaves."

He and other speakers launched a campaign for the release from prison of 76-year-old cape unionist, Mr Oscar Mpetha — who Mr Barayi described as "the father of the trade union movement." A message of support said to come from Mr Mpetha — a diabetic who had a leg amputated and who is presently serving a five year jail term in Pollsmoor prison — was read out which lauded the launch of COSATU as leading South Africa "forward to socialism through the struggle of the working class."

Appealing to workers to support the youth of South Africa in their battles, Mr Barayi said that "our message to the South African Government is that you shoot our youth, but freedom is on the way, the government must know that the tree of freedom is watered with blood."

Mr Barayi and northern Natal executive member, Mr Jerry Ntombela, launched stinging attacks on Chief Mangosuthu Gatsha Buthelezi and Inkatha, which recently launched the United Workers Union South Africa in opposition to COSATU.

The rally was marked by repeated calls for the release from prison of the leaders of the African National Congress, the unbanning of the ANC, and praise for the movement's leadership. When a large group of youths bearing the ANC flag ran into the stadium, a roar went up from the crowd, who began chanting "Viva, Viva" (long live).

Mr Noel Williams, COSATU western Cape vice chairperson, said that "today Cape history is being made, the workers revolution has begun. The factories and the land of South Africa belong to us. We have sees that the students have become militant, they do not want to be educated to be slaves in South Africa, the students are building a new South Africa. We as workers must support that action of the students because an injury to one is an injury to all."

Situation at Van Dyks Mine Back to Normal

MB241648 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1505 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 24, SAPA — Conditions returned to normal today at the Van Dyks Drift mine after the work stoppage last week when workers refused to comply with the mines exit and entry procedures, a spokesman for the mine said today.

Job Reservation in Mines Appears Near End

MB260919 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0900 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Job reservation on the mines is on the verge of collapse. Talks on the subject between the Chamber of Mines and the white mining unions appear to have achieved a breakthrough, although some differences still remain.

It is now up to the minister of mineral and energy affairs to examine the proposals which have been forwarded to him, and he is likely to introduce legislation during the current Parliament session.

At present, black workers are prevented from operating in 13 key job categories in terms of the Scheduled Persons Clause. The white mining unions, which have been totally against the scrapping of job reservation, are still said to be opposed to opening union membership to all workers.

Youths Enforce Boycott in Pretoria Township

MB251002 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0925 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 25, SAPA — Groups of youths yesterday started enforcing the indefinite consumer boycott in three of Pretoria's townships and one in Bophuthatswana.

The youths were seen stopping cars and pedestrians in Mamelodi, Soshanguve, Atteridgeville/Saulsville and Ga-Rankuwa. Witnesses said the youths searched people to ensure that the boycott of white-owned shops, which came into effect yesterday, was observed.

There were no clashes reported, but a witness said he saw copies of a newspaper — earmarked for boycott in Mamelodi — confiscated from commuters and torn to pieces.

People who failed to observe the boycott yesterday put the blame on "bogus" pamphlets which were distributed at the weekend. The pamphlets said the boycott would start on April 7 — and not on March 24 as initially arranged. The PCBC (Pretoria Consumer Boycott Committte) which is organising the current boycott, denied the knowledge of the pamphlets.

Meanwhile, businessmen in Mamelodi and Atteridgeville have said they would take legal action if their businesses were interfered with during the consumer boycott. The businessmen's statement comes in the wake of a rumour circulating in the townships that police intended to close shops in the areas to "sabotage" the activities of the PCBC.

But Brigadier Hertzog Lerm, divisional inspector for northern Transvaal, said there was no truth in the rumour. He would not allow such a measure to be taken.

The boycott was called to pressure government to, among other actions, withdraw security forces from the townships, unban COSAS, (Congress of South African Students], release political detainees and lower rents. The PCBC has also listed other demands, some of which have now been met.

Gangs of Youths Stealing Petrol in Soweto

MB241539 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1456 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 24, SAPA — Gangs of youths in Soweto are getting petrol at service stations and driving off without paying, a Soweto garage owner and police said today.

A Soweto youth was arrested when he and three others crashed into the glass door of a filling station in their bid to avoid paying for petrol. The youth, driving a stolen panel van, stopped at the Emdeni garage, owned by a Soweto councillor, Mr Ephraim Tshabalala, to fill up the tank. Once they had filled up, the youths refused to pay and drove off. Mr Tshabalala and his staff rushed out to try and stop the van. The driver then apparently lost control of the vehicle and crashed into the glass door.

One youth was apprehended and handed over to the police but his colleagues managed to get away. The damage caused is estimated at R10000. A police spokesman said the youth is expected to appear in court soon.

Mr Tshabalala said such incidents were now a daily occurrence. Last night Mr Tshabalala's house was petrol-bombed, causing extensive damage.

Bophuthatswana Police Open Fire on Crowd, Kill 7

MB261249 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1248 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 26, SAP — Seven people were killed, scores injured and about 1000 arrested, when Bophuthatswana police opened fire on a large crowd in Winterveld today.

Bophuthatswana police said seven had been killed. An official at the Ga-Rankuwa hospital said only one body had arrived there.

Col M.A. Molope, the district commandant of the Bophuthatswana police in Mabopane and Ga-Rankuwa, confirmed the incident and said a large crowd had held an illegal gathering in an open space in the area. Col Molope said he instructed the people to disperse but instead they threw stones and petrol bombs at the police.

The shooting incident happened shortly after 11am. Thirty unused petrol bombs were confiscated, he said.

Scores of injured people surrounded by police — some with bullet wounds — waited for more than an hour before they could be taken either to the hospital or the police station. The dead have not yet been identified.

Black Man 'Necklaced' in Chesterville

MB261309 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1307 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 26, SAPA — A black man died when he was "necklaced" in unrest in Chesterville township near Durban this morning, a spokesman for the Police Directorate of Public Relations confirmed in Pretoria.

Details on Killing of 8 in Port Elizabeth 25 Mar

MB260909 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0813 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, March 26, SAPA — Eight people died when police fired shots to disperse a large crowd that stormed a bottle store in Salamntu Street in Kwazakele, Port Elizabeth yesterday afternoon.

Lieutenant-Colonel Gerrie van Rooyen, SA police liaison officer for the eastern Cape, said last night two men — aged 20 and 45 — were killed when police tried for two hours to keep the people, some of whom were armed with petrol-bombs and stones, from storming the bottle store.

An overnight police report from Pretoria said today eight people died in the incident. Tearsmoke was fired, a sneeze machine was used and eventually shots were fired, Col Van Rooyen said. It could not be established last night whether anyone else was injured "because they do not come to us," he said.

In Koyana Street, Zwide, a closed shop belonging to the former mayor of Ibhayi Town Council, Mr Tamsanqa Linda, was damaged and a vehicle said to belong to Mr Z.H. Putu, an Ibhayi town councillor, was overturned and set alight by rioting mobs in Veeplaas.

Local newspaper reporters were told by people at the scene that they had been hit by birdshot. Col Van Rooyen said police had not fired anything except tearsmoke in Koyana Street yesterday afternoon. He added that the whole of Koyana Street had been barricaded by burning objects yesterday afternoon.

Police could also not confirm that Mr Linda's shop had been damaged. Local reporters said a burning van was blocking Koyana Street in front of Mr Linda's shop. There were also scattered, trampled groceries in the street, which people there said had been looted from Mr Linda's shop.

Police Issue Latest Overnight Unrest Report

MB260639 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0635 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 26, SAPA — Following is the overnight unrest situation report issued to SAPA by the Police Public Relations Division in Pretoria.

The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

In Kagiso, a beerhall was petrol-bombed. A guard dispersed the arsonists with shotgun fire. Three youths were admitted to hospital. One subsequently died while the other two were slightly wounded.

In the same area, a private vehicle was destroyed when it was set on fire.

In Soweto, a private vehicle was extensively damaged by stonethrowers. Also in Soweto, a mob threw a petrol-bomb at a black man. One of them — a youth — was arrested.

At Old Crossroads, in the western Province, a number of private vehicles were stoned. As a result, the driver of one of them, a white woman, lost control and collided with another vehicle. She was seriously injured. Police dispersed the stonethrowers with shotgun fire, wounding a man. The vehicles were both extensively damaged.

On one occasion, five heavy calibre shots were fired at a private vehicle and three at a police vehicle. On another, a white man in a vehicle was slightly injured by stonethrowers.

Police fired on a mob which stoned their vehicle, fatally wounding two youths, while two others were arrested. In the same area, petrol-bombs were hurled at a police vehicle.

At KwaZakhele, Port Elizabeth, police vehicles were stoned and petrol bombed. Police fired tearsmoke and shotguns to disperse their attackers. Two men were fatally wounded and four others arrested.

In the same area, a bottle store was extensively damaged by arsonists. Police fired tearsmoke and shotguns to disperse the mob, wounding and arresting two men. Another 4 men were also arrested.

Policemen were placed on observation duty in the same bottle store. Approximately 100 blacks rushed into the building, throwing petrol-bombs in the passage. The policemen, whose lives were threatened, fired shotguns to repel the attack, fatally wounding eight men and seriously wounding two others.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report]

Cabinet Changes Likely

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 22 March reports on page 1 that "a major cabinet reshuffle is expected at mid-year, when the country moves into the second phase of the new dispensation, with 'General Affairs' provincial administrations and Regional Service Councils. In Parliamentary circles it is regarded as an 'open secret' that Mr Louis le Grange, minister of law and order, and Dr Lapa Munnik, minister of posts and telecommunications, will step down, probably in July." One suggestion is that the president may take a look at the constitutional development and the educational development aid departments and separate their constitutional and their purely administrative functions. When Le Grange steps down, the way will be cleared to create a new national security department. The front-runners for president, Chris Heunis, F.W. de Klerk, Gerrit Viljoen, and Pik Botha will retain their policy-making positions, and a newcomer will head national security affairs, possibly Adriaan Vlok, deputy minister of both defense and law and order, or General Magnus Malan.

Hijacking Cars

In its editorial on page 6, the paper says the "hijacking of cars near Alexandra Township and in Soweto is plain thuggery." Youths have been surrounding drivers at intersections and threatening them with burning if they do not give up their cars. In Soweto youths are forcing drivers to take them where they want to go and then burning the cars. If people cannot travel safely on the roads, the paper says, the country will be near anarchy. "We are concerned not only about this criminal acitivity, but about the tendency of some black youngsters to act in a most brutal and inhuman fashion." The unconcern for life and property means that the "comrades" have abandoned civilized values. The paper reminds them of the need for education with the possibility of a 1 April school boycott approaching. "Community leaders and parents must see to it that their children remain at school and that they end their violence before it engulfs the townships in a further wave of death and destruction."

Durban Fires

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 24 March reports on page 1 that the paper had learned police in Durban were questioning both leftwing and rightwing students at Natal University in connection with the fires over the weekend. Police have not determined how the fires started. The university has also appointed a committee to investigate the incident.

ANC and Hijackings

Helen Simpson reports on the same page that the commissioner for police in Soweto "is convinced the recent spate of car hijackings and robberies near Alexandra and Soweto are politically motivated. 'These acts are being carried out by the ANC Youth Brigade and are part of a well organised strategy to make the country ungovernable,' he said." He added: " 'They are trying to form a people's army. This is not just plain thuggery but a well co-ordinated strategy organised from outside the country.' "

Relook at Banning Legislation

The government is examining legislation on bannings and detentions "after setbacks the system has suffered in recent court decisions," the Johannesburg *STAR* in English for 24 March reports on page 1. A spokesman for the department of law and order said the minister would "have another look" at provisions of the Internal Security Act, in terms of which people were banned. It appears as if three options are available: reissuing banning orders and giving reasons; lifting banning orders; or changing legislation. A Progressive Federal Party [PFP] spokesman said any attempt to withdraw all banning orders and to issue fresh ones with no reasons, or attempts to tighten up legislation, would result in "widespread national and international reaction. The only way out was to allow a form of judicial testing of whether justifiable reasons, in terms of the act, existed."

STAR on Banning, Detention Orders

An editorial on page 16 says the appeal court's decision to invalidate 16 detention orders because the police and the law and order minister had not supplied reasons "was a timely reminder that a certain arrogance" had crept into the authority's dealings with people deemed to be troublemakers. However, the minister can reimpose the banning orders anytime — this time with reasons. Similarly, Mkhuseli Jack can be silenced again. At least, however, the minister will have to give reasons and "for the moment that is some sort of achievement." It is a message to the outside world that "the rule of law still breathes. And it is a message to the minister and his servants that the law still protects individual rights, frail though it now may be."

Solution to Unrest

Jon Qwelane writes on page 17 that the countrywise unrest — well into its second year — is seemingly unabating. When P.W. Botha lifted the state of emergency 2 weeks ago he said the unrest was abating, but in those 2 weeks fresh violence and confrontation have taken place almost every day over wide areas of the country. Many black and white leaders and ordinary citizens are stressing that increasing the number of police in the troubled townships is not the way to solve the problem. While that might seem to work in the short term, "long-term solutions would have to be political."

Problems Facing Agriculture

A report on page 22 says the "inflation spiral combined with the twin problems of rising input costs and debt will inevitably put such a stranglehold on agriculture that despite a more promising outlook it will have to turn to the government for more help." Volkskas' [People's Bank] "Economic Spotlight" says agriculture has probably been affected a great deal more seriously by inflation than most other sectors. It says the government should see the low level of profitability as restricting new farmers from entering the field, causing a decline in the number of full-time farmers and seriously limiting farmers' ability to recover after drought conditions. The debt burden deteriorated from 11.5 percent in 1975 to 26.5 percent in 1985, and while the value of farming assets rose on average from 1975-85 by 9.8 percent a year, the debt burden showed an increase of 19.2 percent a year in the same 10-year period.

Vaal Stayaway

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 24 March on page 2 reports that 2,000 Vaal residents resolved "to stayaway from work in protest at several issues, including the continued arrest by the Lekowa Town Council of rent defaulters. The meeting was in Sebokeng. A pamphlet issued by the committee demanded the release of all people arrested for rent arrears, an end to issuing of summonses for non-payment of rents, the resignation of all councillors and the scrapping of the Black Local Authorities Act, the release of the Delmas treason trialists and all trialists connected to the rent strike, the unbanning of the Congress of South African Students, the recognition of May Day as a holiday, the withdrawal of troops from the townships and a halt to assaults by township guards."

SOWETAN on Bannings

In an editorial on page 4, the paper welcomes the court ruling setting aside the banning of Mkhuseli Jack and welcomes the limited curbs which the court placed on the law and order minister. However, "we believe this country should not have people detained without trial or people who are banned." "Justice demands that before you punish a man, you should give him a fair trial, where evidence against him is led [as published] and he can defend himself before an impartial judge. We need to retrieve this sense of justice from under the carpet, where it has been swept. But to be a truly just society, we need to ensure that the people tried in our courts have been party to the laws under which they are being tried."

Flush Out COSAS

An article by Monk Nkomo on page 11 reports that "squatters" in Koekenhout, near Mabopane, in Bophuthatswana, were given 14 days to leave after they rejected police orders to "form vigilante groups in the area to flush out political activists." A spokesman for the squatters said they were told to " 'hunt members of the Congress of South African Students.' " A Bophuthatswana Government spokesman said the squatters were " 'not forced' " to assist the police.

British Ban

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 24 March reports on page 1 from London that "Britain's strongest television and film technicians union yesterday voted to impose a series of wide-ranging bans on their dealings with South Africa." The technicians "voted overwhelmingly to ban all film and video productions involving SA, with the exception of news and current affairs." They also voted that commercials for South African products would not be "produced, processed, distributed nor transmitted in Britain."

Public Sector Pay

"Public-sector pay is growing at a much faster rate than that of the rest of the economy," John Tilston reports on page 1 of *BUSINESS DAY*. In the years before September 1985, the average public-sector salary increased 39.6 percent compared to general price increases of 30.7 percent. With the recently announced 10 percent increase, the average salary will be R985.19 per month.

Upswing Indicated

Lesley Lambert reports on the same page that "a modest but fairly broadly based economic upswing began during the fourth quarter of last year, according to Reserve Bank statistics." The bank's Quarterly Bulletin indicated that economic output increased in most sectors and some components of gross domestic expenditure started to show a moderate recovery. The publication points out that two factors restrain economic recovery, high inflation and the need to reduce the country's foreign debt, "which requires a level of overall expenditure compatible with the surplus on the current account of the balance of payments."

MP Salaries on Ice

"Although government has accepted in principal substantial improvements in pay and service conditions for parliamentarians, recommended by the Schlebusch Committee, these are all being kept on ice for the moment," the paper reports on page 2. The government is waiting for the economic climate to improve, according to one MP. He still hope that a R10,000 grant for secretarial assistance in the MP'S district might be possible.

Price Rises Feared

According to consumer organizations, "all government-administered basic-food prices would be substantially higher by mid year to load living costs of poor people intolerably," the paper reports on the same page. The increases would be due partly to reduced government subsides. Although a bread price increase might be postponed, a large increase was certain in October when the new, higher producer what price would be announced.

BUSINESS DAY on Budget

In an editorial on page 6, the paper says that "few who think about government spending have much confidence in Finance Minister Barend du Plessis' declared intention to limit outlays to an increase of 14 percent in the current fiscal year, especially if, at best, inflation turns out at an annual rate of 15 percent." The skeptism will persist "because government's record of over-spending substantially is frankly rather bad." The Reserve Bank efforts to keep check on money supply growuth will make interest rates rise if the government overspends. However, the bank might be tempted to find it conveniently impossible to keep within targets. However, the paper is going to chart monetary growth, M3, on a weekly basis and "if Church Square is not spot on, we and many others are going to demand to know the reason why." "Money supply targets may yet turn out to be the best scourge the monetarists and supply-siders at the Reserve Bank have to restrain their interventionist cousins at the Union Building."

BUSINESS DAY on Education

In an editorial on page 6, *BUSINESS DAY* says that it is quite proper that education expenditure should be the largest single item in the budget because "our society must be modernised. But the cost of modernisation — and education is the central pillar of this process — is awesome." There are only two ways to fund modernization, increasing expenditure as a result of increased economic growth or redistributing wealth, which means "lowering of present standards to find the lowest common denominator." The prospects of economic growth are limited, however. To increase economic growth and improve the prospect for jobs, "we need to see more action from government than simply an increase in expenditure on education, welcome as it is. We need to see the economy unshackled. We need to see entrepreneurship encouraged by greater tax cuts and by the slashing of red tape. We need to open our society so that anyone with a spirit of enterprise can fruitfully put his ideas to work, and in this way generate wealth and jobs."

BUSINESS DAY on Wage Increases

In its third editorial on the same page, the paper says that other companies should follow the example of the Anglo American Industrial Corporation [AMIC] in negotiating wage increases with unions and show them a value added table. AMIC's table showed that of the values added, 55 percent went to employees and 5 percent to government, while only 18 percent was retained for expansion of the business. Such figures should dispel popular black beliefs that "most of the income of companies goes to management, that the government is the main supplier of capital and that wages absorb a small percentage of net income. Wage negotiations should also be an educational process."

PFP MP Questions Le Grange

Political reporter Ebrahim Moosa reports on page 2 of Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 21 March that PFP media spokesman and MP for Sandton David Dalling has asked Law and Order Minister Louis le Grange for more details on the barring of *CAPE TIMES* reporter Chris Bateman from police crime briefings after Bateman's reporting of the Guguletu shootout. Dalling submitted the written questions to Le Grange in Parliament and said they are aimed "at seeking clarity on whether the steps taken against the reporter were in terms of the agreement reached between the South African Police and the Newspaper Press Union."

Saunders Criticizes Constitution

"The new tricameral constitution was unworkable, too costly and was skewing national priorities, the principal of the University of Cape Town, Dr Stuart Saunders, said last night," Barry Streek reports on page 4. In his presidential address to the South African Institute of Race Relations, Saunders said multiple education departments were inefficient and expensive and the country did not have the manpower to staff those departments with qualified people. "He also said that he knew of 'no one in government or out of it who has experience in health-service delivery, who will defend "own affairs" and "general affairs" hospitals.' "

Squatters Harassed

"Squatters living at Vrygrond near Muizehberg are being forced to dismantle their shelters every morning and reerect them at night to avoid having them demolished and their building materials confiscated by City Council workers," the paper reports on page 6. An official of the New World Foundation, "which is involved in community development in the area," said that "at least 30 families — considered illegal in terms of the Illegal Squatting Act — were subject to daily harassment by council officials." A city official said the council " 'is doing everything in its power to find a humane solution to the problem' " and plans to ask the government to be allowed "to act in contravention of the existing policy."

CAPE TIMES on Saunders Warning

Commenting on Stuart Saunders' presidential address to the Institute of Race Relations in an editorial on page 10, the paper says one theme of the speech "which is particularly timely is Dr Saunders' strongly voiced concern about the dangers of giving undue powers, inadequately controlled, to any police or security force." "In warning against police excess, Dr Saunders joins forces with leading citizens such as Dr Jan Steyn, director of the Urban Foundation, and Dr F van Zyl Slabbert, former leader of the Opposition, who have expressed similar concerns. Is it not time the government took note?"

Saunders on Botha Promises

Also on page 10, the paper carries an "edited extract" of Saunder's speech, in which he says that the "full realization of the promises and commitments, stated and implied," in State President's P.W. Botha's speech at the opening of Parliament "could indeed herald a new day for South Africa, and could revolutionize in a peaceful and constructive manner race relations in this country." However, "failure to give legislative muscle and failure to repeal discriminatory legislation will do the reverse." In order for Botha's promises to have any meaning, "the Group Areas Act, the Population Registration Act and the Natives Land Act must be repealed." The country must move "away completely from making race the final determinant in all decisions in the political structures" and replace it "by placing human rights and non-racial considerations on centre-stage." Saunders notes that "there are high expectations among South African blacks of real change — to deny them that would be very dangerous. Indeed apartheid cannot be reformed."

Record Number of Liquidations

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 22 March reports on page 2 that a record number of business liquidations took place last year. The report says about 6,000 businesses, including well-known companies, were liquidated, the total amount involved being 84 million rands. "The number of insolvencies during 1985 rose by an alarming 96.8 percent, while that during the last quarter dropped by 7.1 percent."

Call for Christian Front

On page 8, in his "Political *BEELD*" column, writer "Dawie" says South Africa is on the road to a new future, the details of which cannot yet be spelled out, but at the same time the daily unrest is making it clear which direction the country cannot afford to take. "The extremists are displaying such a spirit of intolerance and destruction that right-thinking people cannot even indicate their abhorence enough, and want nothing to do with it." He notes the incident at Witwatersrand University when students heckled UNITA speakers and reports from Soweto of gangs of youths attacking each other, while in Guguletu the so-called "Fathers" and "Comrades" are locked in fierce fighting. These differences of opinion, he writes, are at the root of the suspicion and fear found in the wider political arena in the country. "Chaos and anarchy can only be overcome by a common front of reasonable people. The government has prepared the table for this, but further and clearer action is needed." The church is one institution which can play an important role in promoting greater understanding. "Christians make up by far the majority in South Africa, and a united Christian front can form a bastion against a communist onslaught of enslavement and anarchy."

Conservative Councillor To Resign From Church

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 24 March reports on page 4 that the church council of the Dutch Reformed Church community in Algoa Bay in Port Elizabeth is to consider steps against a Conservative Party city councillor who has threatened to resign from the church council if a colored choir is allowed to sing at the church. Parish Priest L. du Toit, confirming that Chris Meyer had informed him that he would resign, said that Mr Meyer was welcome to resign. " 'If Mr Meyer does not resign, the church will be forced to ask him to do so, because politics do not belong in the church,' Mr du Toit added."

Colored Students Banned From Pool

On page 3 the paper reports that physical education students at the Rand Afrikaans University (RAU), among whose number are included three colored students, will in future have to use a municipal swimming pool, following the ban on the colored students using the pool at Goudstad Teacher Training College. The report says the ban followed complaints by students at Goudstad over the use of their pool by the colored students, but adds that since its inception, RAU has always been allowed to use the swimming facilities at Goudstad.

DIE VADERLAND on Wits Incident

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 21 March says in an editorial on page 8 that while Witwatersrand University is one of the best, the authorities at the institution are not renowned for their control of the radical students there. This was confirmed again this week when members of the Black Students Society (BSS) at Wits made it impossible for the UNITA visitors to address a student audience. "It is notable that this was a case where black students who have involved themselves in freedom for black South Africans reacted so aggressively to a visit by three black freedom fighters/guerrillas from another country, Angola." The paper says that disciplinary action by the university authorities is needed, but it points out that this will not change the attitude of the BSS members. For that, political missionary work is needed.

RAPPORT on Wits Incident

Johannesburg *RAPPORT* in Afrikaans on 23 March in an editorial on page 14 says: "Scandalous. There is no other word for the behavior of some Wits students toward representatives of the Angolan resistance movement UNITA." The point is not that the Wits students are more inclined to favor the Marxist MPLA regime in that country. Rather, what is involved here is the democratic right of free speech and just plain ordinary decency — of which the students involved have apparently not the slightest idea.

White Spinal Unit at Hospital

"Nobody would be refused admission to the white spinal unit of the H.F. Verwoerd Hospital on the grounds of colour, the MEC [member of executive committee] for Hospital Services in Transvaal, Mr Dan Kirstein, told *THE STAR* last night," Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 25 March reports on page 1. Kirstein visited "the Muslim section of the hospital" to check on the condition of a 27-year-old Cape Malay woman who was paralyzed from the neck down after a car accident. She has since been moved to a private ward and special equipment has been installed in her room. Kirstein denied that the woman "had not been admitted to the spinal unit because of her colour, but admitted the unit was for whites and for crucial cases."

Atteridgeville Blockade

"Members of the security forces yesterday stopped Atteridgeville traders from collecting food and other supplies from delivery trucks at the township entrance," the paper reports on page 3. "The blockade has been viewed by the local residents as a countermove to the boycott of white businesses in Pretoria, which started yesterday," but the divisional inspector of the northern Transvaal police, Brigadier Hertzog Lerm, attributed it to the " 'tense situation which already prevailed in the townships in the early hours of yesterday morning.' " Lerm added that businessmen were able to collect their supplies later in the day and the situation returned to normal.

Bread Price Rise Possible

"Funds made available by the Wheat Board will temporarily prevent an increase in the bread price — but the price could still rise after September this year," Estelle Trengove reports on page 3. It was possible that wheat producers would ask for an "adaptation in the wheat price" after the wheat season ended in September which would affect the Wheat Board's contribution to the bread subsidy and the price of bread.

Budget Debate Discriminatory

"The fact that the main budget would only be debated in the House of Assembly was discriminatory, the chairman of the Ministers Council in the House of Representatives, Mr Allan Hendrickse, said yesterday," the paper reports on page 4. Hendrickse added that "until all three Houses could discuss the budget together the practice would be seen as discrimination against other houses."

Sandton Favors Opening Cinemas

"The Sandton Town Council last night came out in favour of opening the eight cinemas in the town to all races," the paper reports on page 6. The council resolved to tell the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning that the council "strongly supported" the opening of all cinemas.

Lesotho 'Reserved' on Sanctions

"Lesotho appears to be taking a more reserved line on the issue of support for international sanctions against South Africa," political correspondent David Braun reports on page 7. After a meeting with his South African counterpart in Cape Town, Lesotho Foreign Minister Lengolo Monyake said " 'the issue of sanctions has not arisen with the present administration,' " adding " 'we have more important priorities to deal with.' "

Tutu on Education Conference

"Apprehension — that is what the Anglican bishop of Johannesburg expresses when he views the forthcoming national consultative conference on education to be held this week in Durban," Jo-Anne Collignc ways on page 8. Bishop Tutu said he believed several of the demands made at the December educational conference had been met and that Deputy Education Minister Sam de Beer " 'has done a great deal in this sphere. But even if he did everything he was asked, it is — in a sense — irrelevant. The education problem is caused by the bigger problem (of apartheid).' " Bishop Tutu said the state of emergency had been lifted in name only and " 'tensions in the townships have not been reduced.' "

Star on Use of Intimidation

Commenting on the arson at the University of Natal and professors' home in an editorial on page 12, *THE STAR* notes whether the act was committed by the far right or the far left, "more and more, in today's febrile South Africa, political scores are settled through deeds of intimidation. Hit squads of vigilantes, white or black, lunatic right or rabid left, seem to strike almost at will at the lives and property of those they see as enemies." This brings the country that much closer to anarchy, which is "of course, a revolutionary aim: a principal victim, as in the Durban fires is the politics of moderation and negotiation." The authorities must not let this violence become a way of life and "should be seen to be hunting down all its perpetrators with even-handed vigour."

STAR Criticises Medunsa Stayaway

A second editorial on the same page discusses the mass stayaway by black students at the Medical University of South Africa (MEDUNSA) over two white students' attendance at the school. These black students are practicing "apartheid in reverse," the paper says, and while there may be reasons for their protest, it is "unfortunate that the very people who have been clamouring for open education facilities should now see fit to demand the right to remain racially exclusive."

Reaction to Munsieville Decision

"The state president's announcement that Krugersdorp's troubled black township Munsieville will not be moved has evoked mixed feeling among residents," the paper says on page 13. The Krugersdorp Action Group has been circulating a petition calling for the township's removal and has already collected 11,000 signatures. Conservative Party Councillor Chris Viljoen likened the township to " 'cancer,' " which has to be fought, adding: " 'I will take on the whole Cabinet single-handed if I have to.' " Krugersdorp National Party MP Leon Wessels "was more optimistic about Mr Botha's announcement and the guidelines laid down — which include the K17 highway to act as a buffer area between the two settlements, the erection of security fences and high-density lights, and regular Defence Force patrols of the area. 'Many people have come back to me with a better understanding of the situation and the precautions (guidelines) have brought great relief. I have heard appreciation from both black and white.' " In a companion article on the same page, Chris More reports that Munsieville's residents "welcomed but were not impressed by State President Mr Botha's announcement that the community would not be removed despite a petition signed by more than 10,000 of their white neighbours."

Heunis on Black Housing

Addressing the annual general meeting of the National Homebuilders Association in Johannesburg, Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis "urged the private sector yesterday to get involved in the provision of housing for blacks," the paper reports on page 16. Heunis added that the government had "leaned backwards to remove all impediments that may in the past have prevented objectives for black housing being reached."

Support for Police in Townships

"White Afrikaans-speakers, who lived in major metropolitan areas and had a monthly income of less than R2,000 were likely to support the police presence in the townships, a Gallup poll has found," Bart Marinovich reports on the same page. Of the 1,000 people surveyed, 78 percent supported the police presence, 20 percent opposed it, and 2 percent were unsure. Afrikaners — 87 percent — were considerably more supportive of the SAP's role than their English speaking counterparts — 70 percent. The same applied to lower income whites: 81 percent of those with a monthly income of less than R2,000 approved of the police presence compared with 73 percent for those earning more." The strongest support came from the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area and other metropolitan areas.

End Assaults on Children

A delegation of women representing 14 organizations presented to Law and Order Minister Louis le Grange and Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee "a memorandum calling on the government to end alleged assaults, intimidation and harassment of children by the security forces and the immediate release of all children in detention," Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 25 March reports on page 2. The organizations said they were " 'horrified by the overwhelming evidence of violence perpetrated by the state. In fact at least 68 children have died. Thousands of children and their parents are demanding that the government listen to their grievances.' "

National Forum Meeting

"The third — and most decisive — National Forum will be held in Durban at the weekend," the paper reports on page 8. The meeting will "seriously look into the forms of action that could be taken to end apartheid in South Africa." Among the organizations attending will be the UDF and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU). The meeting will be held 28-29 March. The organization released a statement in Johannesburg saying that "the National Forum is an organisation of blacks only and its policy is against association with whites."

Refugees Vindicated

In a "Focus" article on the same page, the paper cites the reaction of various people to the court order overturning banning orders, but in particular the individuals who took refuge in the British Consulate in 1984. Laurence Boulle, professor of public law at the University of Natal, called it a " 'landmark judgement,' " which emphasized the need for " 'judicial control of a government which increasingly disregards legal provisions. However, a thoroughly repressive law remains intact. That can only be remedied politically.' " UDF President Archie Gumede, one of the six refugees, said that the six had to take action based on an invalid order and said " 'it is very heartening that action has been taken to stop things like this.' " Another refugee, Mewa Ramgobin, called the judgement " 'an indictment of the security system in South Africa and a vindication of what we believe in and what we stand for.' " Marius Wiechers, a law professor at the University of South Africa, said he expected the ruling " 'to result in more control over ministerial use of discretionary powers — particularly in the field of security legislation.' "

Transfer of Amenities

"The Cabinet had approved the transfer of resorts, museums and library and auxiliary services identified as Own Affairs of Whites to the white administration, the minister of the budget, Mr F.W. de Klerk, said yesterday," the paper reports from the House of Assembly on page 4. In this House of Assembly budget speech he said that "finality had not yet been reached on the division of health services and local affairs matters now assigned to the provincial administration." " 'Sound progress has, however, been made with the identification of the Own Affairs aspects of these functions. It is trusted that finality will be reached during this session of Parliament.' " Mr de Klerk said the government was committed to promoting the interests of all races but "was convinced that the recognition of decision-making powers on Own Affairs best equipped any population group's leaders to achieve the best results for their people. The government would therefore continue to give full effect to the constitution." Guidelines would be drawn up for the privatization of any appropriate service within the white administration. "The minister said the transfer of provincial functions to the white administration would involve a massive transfer of work to the Ministers' Council of the House of Assembly." Consideration was therefore being given to devolution and decentralization.

Lesotho Talks

In a report on page 8, on the talks between Lesotho and South Africa on the Oxbow water scheme, Brian Stuart quotes Foreign Minister Pik Botha as telling him that " 'it is quite clear that both governments realise we must co-operate on a realistic and constructive basis. The two governments will give attention to the question of agreeing on structures that will make this practical co-operation more efficient.' " Lesotho's Minister of Foreign Affairs Lengolo Monyake "affirmed a statement by Mr Botha that the two governments were in accord on not allowing the use of their territories as a base for attack on their neighbors."

SWAPO Attack

"Intelligence feed back from the operational area indicates that the military wing of SWAPO is planning a belated, late rainy season incursion campaign from Angola into South West Africa." Keith Abendroth reports. "Sources say that this might be linked to the clearly stepped up planning of the Angolan military forces, FAPLA, backed by Cuban and Russian surrogate forces" to launch a campaign against UNITA. The SWAPO campaign "could bridge over into the FAPLA attack — SWAPO relying on the late season rain to help it with its infiltration."

Teachers Cautioned on Politics

"Teachers should avoid politics in their professional work and it was certainly not their task to prepare children to fit a particular political mould," Gerrit Viljoen, minister of education and development aid, told a graduation ceremony in Sasolburg for graduates of the local teachers college. He said teachers were not political appointees but " 'continued doing the same job in their communities regardless of what political winds might be blowing at any particular time.' " " 'It is in the teacher's avoidance of politics and his professionalism, that his strength lies.' "

Town Councillor Resigns

On the same page, the paper reports that black Kroonstad town councillor N.B. Blank has resigned, telling the paper that " 'people have told us that they no longer need us. I decided to bow to their demands after threats were made to my life as well as threats to boycott my shop.' "

Alexandra Businessmen

"Angry businessmen yesterday pledged to save their dying businesses in industrial areas near Alexandra township," Dominique Gilbert reports on page 1 of Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 25 March. A meeting of 150 businessmen rebuked the town of Sandton for "failing to do enough to protect them," and several threatened to stop paying taxes immediately. A police spokesman said there would be an investigation of charges that police failed to respond to calls for assistance from businessmen.

Rand Drops

"The rand lost another 2 percent — falling to $0.4750 yesterday — as doubts continued about the Reserve Bank's ability to meet the acceleration of the repayment on its foreign debt," the paper reports on the same page. "Importers began taking cover to prevent exposure against further falls in the rand." In a related story on the same page, Lesley Lambert cites Finance Minister Barend du Plessis as saying that the "foreign debt deal does not necessarily mean funds will be withdrawn from the country if borrowers are able to make roll-over arrangements with foreign banks." He also said that "potential new borrowers of foreign funds would also be in a better position to negotiate for new loans." "He stressed that the Reserve Bank would not need any additional foreign exchange from the local market to facilitate the earlier withdrawal of funds."

British Ban Will Not Hurt

Another report on the same page says that the "proposed British ban on films and TV productions for SA and from SA will not have much impact on the local industry." According to one official, " 'the less stuff available the more we'll produce internally.' "

Editorial on British TV Ban

A second editorial on the same page says the British ban on supplying films to South Africa is a step "down the cultural boycott road. And another step down the road towards piracy." Until now, South Africa has been active in helping to stamp out piracy but after a certain point "there will no longer be any apparent advantage in staying legal, and the Jolly Roger will be raised." In that case, producers of shows will lose a significant source of revenue.

BUSINESS DAY on Bannings

In a third editorial on page 6, the paper says it cannot help "a feeling of trepidation at the news that government is now reviewing its legislations and bannings and detentions" after recent court setbacks. "With our strong and independent judiciary, we do not need totalitarian measures more befitting the communist countries that our authorities so strongly decry. To use P.W. Botha's idiom, these laws, like apartheid, are outdated."

Police Reporting System

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 24 March reports on page 4 that the police have announced a new system by which the public can provide information without themselves getting involved. Colonel Vic Haynes, senior liaison officer, said the police have long been aware that people possess information which could assist the force, but fear for their safety if their identity had to become known. '"We now have answering machines at the larger centers in the country. People can call to give information regarding the country's security and the unrest situation, as well as any information which can be of use to the police in the execution of their duties,'" he said. Col Haynes pointed out that the system operates 24 hours a day.

VADERLAND Praises Police

In an editorial on page 12, the paper praises the prompt action of the police in foiling the petrol bombing of polecemen's homes in Soweto. "This action will contribute towards restoring confidence among black officials and others who want to live within the law, that they are being protected. And it will show the bands of murderers that the police are still a formidable force."

BEELD on Apartheid

Apartheid exists not only in the statute books, but in the hearts of people, where it is much more difficult to overcome, says an editorial on page 12 of the Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans of 25 March. We are reminded of this, it says, by the refusal by students at the Goudstad Teacher Training College to allow colored students of the Rand Afrikaans University to use their swimming pool. It is our misfortune, too, that such incidents keep the world spotlight on us and that every such issue is sought out and highlighted till it becomes a world shattering event. The fact that such a thing can still take place involving future Afrikaans teachers and intellectuals makes one lose hope for future relations. What can one expect from our future leaders if such examples are set for them by people who are in a position to reform in the hearts of future generations?

Commentary Views Upcoming Education Conference

MB260833 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] A grave responsibility rests on those black groups that have organised themselves into the National Education Crisis Committee [NECC] for a conference in Durban this weekend on black school attendance. In effect the NECC is going to decide — and will presumably be supported in its decision by a variety of politically activist groups — whether black pupils should remain at school this year. According to the organisers the decision will be taken on an assessment of government responses to demands made last December by the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee.

It is precisely in evaluating those demands and responses that any movement purporting to be concerned about education should be quite clear about where its duty lies. The long list of demands drawn up three months ago dealt with two distinctly different matters. The first was the state of black education and what was most urgently needed to make practical improvements. The second related to law enforcement activities designed to restore a measure of stability and personal safety in the black areas.

The legitimate educational demands obviously fall into the category of the reforms that are necessary if this country is to build a just dispensation for all its peoples. South Africa is committed to the broad goal of full political participation through structures determined by negotiation, equal opportunity for all and the removal of statutory discrimination. This is both a moral and a security imperative. And not the least of the conditions for its achievement is parity in education. That the school authorities have acted so expeditiously in consultation with the black groups concerned on the educational grievances is ample evidence of the widespread recognition that reform in this and other spheres is too important to be delayed by bureaucratic, political or any other obstacles.

As for the second matter that will occupy the weekend conference, it would be irresponsible and less than honest to ignore the educational implications of demands that could weaken the forces of law and order. As it happens, some of the demands were accommodated by changes in the overall situation in the country — for example, the state of emergency was lifted and teachers detained under emergency regulations were released. But the demand for the withdrawal of the law enforcement units from black areas has not been met. Nor is it going to be, while political radicals continue with their campaign of intimidating ordinary citizens, murdering dissidents, and creating the anarchy that will enable them to rule by fear.

It has been said that the challenge facing South Africa is to prevent violent revolution by succeeding with a peaceful revolution. If that is to be achieved, an essential precondition is the maintenance of a stable and law-abiding social framework within which democratic reform may proceed. It is a truism to say that law enforcement is not an alternative to real reform. More to the point, effective law enforcement is a requirement for reform to succeed.

ZIMBABWE

BBC Interviews Shamuyarira on Party Merger

MB241630 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 24 Mar 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There's renewed speculation in Zimbabwe about the possibility of a merger between Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU party and the ruling ZANU-PF. It follows the release in recent weeks of a number of ZAPU detainees and a rally at the weekend in Matabeleland at which Mr Nkomo and government minister and long-time rival Enos Nkala shared a platform to call for unity and an end to violence

On the line to Harare, Julian Marshall asked Zimbabwe's Information Minister Nathan Shamuyarira how important he thought the weekend meeting was.

[Begin recording] [Shamuyarira] Well, the meeting was held at the request of Mr Nkomo, but the important thing is that it was intended to show a combined effort in denouncing and thereby assisting to eliminate the menace of dissidents in Matabeleland. We on the government side have not been happy with the statements that ZAPU has been making on the question of dissidents. We have said they've not been denouncing them strongly and forcefully enough, so when Mr Nkomo suggested this meeting we agreed and it did serve that purpose because he denounced the dissidents very strongly and loudly at the meeting. So did Mr Nkala and Mr Munangagwa.

[Marshall] But do you think that the chances of a merger between the two parties are now that much closer?

[Shamuyarira] Well, the meeting should not be linked with the unity talks as such, but obviously if we can eliminate the dissidents that will bring the parties much closer together in Matabeleland, but we have to see the outcome, you know we have to see the outcome of that, but the meeting itself was not an exercise in the unity talks. Rather, it was an exercise in denouncing and eliminating the bandit elements.

[Marshall] But don't you think that the government perhaps has got a little way to go to winning the hearts and minds of the peoplein Matabeleland? I understand from some reports that there was a certain amount of heckling and a certain amount of hostility at this weekend meeting from some sections of the crowd who were asking for protection from the army.

[Shamuyarira] Well, we have some way to go, I agree, and we knew that before the meeting took place, but as there were ZAPU people at the meeting, as well as ZANU people, it is the ZAPU elements that tried to, you know, that made some noises against the security forces and so forth, but that was to be expected. But certainly I agree with you, there's some way to go.

[Marshall] Could I ask you: In recent weeks, Vote Moyo has been released — former secretary general of ZAPU — Lookout Masuku has been released. Are we likely to see the release of Dumiso Dabengwe, the former chief of staff of ZIPRA, in the coming weeks?

[Shamuyarira] Reviews are taking place, you know, all the time, and it was in fact such a review that led to the release of two men you have referred to, and I'm sure Dumiso Dabengwe's case will be reviewed from time to time. [end recording]

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 MARCH 1986

Lebanon-Israel

Israeli warplanes attacked Fatah targets southeast of Sidon 27 March, Jerusalem radio reported, adding that the raids were directed against a Fatah headquarters in the Al-Miyah wa Miyah refugee camp and against a nearby training base. An AFP report cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said 20 people were killed or injured in the raids.

Four Israelis were slightly injured the same morning when katyushas were fired across Israel's northern border at Qiryat Shemona, Jerusalem radio disclosed, citing the IDF spokesman. Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stressed that Israel will take action to prevent such incidents from recurring, IDF radio noted

Further Reaction to U.S.-Libyan Clash

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received visiting Maltese Prime Minister Karmenu Mifsud Bonneci 26 March, Tripoli television reported, adding that their talks focused on Malta's initiative to convene the UN Security Council to examine the U.S. "aggression." Meanwhile, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio called for the entire Arab nation to be transformed into "suicide squads and human bombs" directed against U.S. "terrorist embassies and interests wherever they may be." The radio also broadcast a support message to Al-Qadhdhafi from the "interim command" of the Palestinian Liberation Front, which announced that it is waiting for "commands" from the Libyan leader. Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt told Al-Qadhdhafi in a cable reported by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio that PSP forces are ready to join the suicide squads and participate in strikes on U.S. interests.

In other Arab reaction, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat confirmed the PLO's support for Libya "without hesitations or reservations," Baghdad Voice of PLO radio noted. A Kuwaiti official spokesman cited by KUNA condemned the U.S. attacks on Libyan positions. Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba expressed "deep concern" over the U.S.-Libyan clash, Tunis radio reported, and he called for a peaceful resolution of the conflict. A Greek Government spokesman likewise expressed Greece's desire for a peaceful solution to the Gulf of Sidra dispute, according to Athens radio, adding that "the agreement on the U.S. bases in our country prohibits the use of these bases for military purposes in the dispute with Libya."

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes raided an "extremely important" railway bridge northeast of Dezful 27 March, an Iraqi spokesman announced in a statement reported by INA. Iraqi warplanes also hit maritime targets in the Gulf 26 and 27 March, according to military statements carried by Voice of the Masses radio. As for claims of aircraft losses, an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA asserted that an Iranian F-4 was downed over the southern front 27 March, while IRNA stated that an Iraqi jet was shot down by Iranian air defenses in the northern sector 26 March.

Israel-Egypt

Israel and Egypt held another round of Tabah talks in Herzliyya 26 March, Jerusalem radio reported, adding that the two delegations are making an "intensive effort" to resolve the remaining substantive issues. In an interview with IDF radio, Foreign Minister Shamir claimed that Israel has shown "great willingness to meet the Egyptian requests halfway" but that Egypt's "tough stand" has prevented progress at the talks.

Sudan-Ethiopia

Allegations that Ethiopian planes have flown into southern Sudan with munitions and suppies for Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) forces are unfounded, an SPLA spokesman announced in a statement reported by the clandestine SPLA radio. Meanwhile, SPLA leader Colonel John Garang reiterated his movement's rejection of Sudanese Government plans to begin holding elections in parts of southern Sudan in April, according to an *AL-SAHAFAH* report cited by SUNA. Garang said the SPLA will fight against any government resulting from such "partial" elections.

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'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] was in the name of the PLO, and the Palestinian brothers were free to choose their representatives to the congress.

Kizichenko added: Faruq Qaddumi led a delegation to my country and delivered a speech in the name of the PLO. This means that there has been no change in our stand toward the PLO. Only the Palestinians can choose their leaders. The Soviet ambassador also underlined the PLO's independence. He emphasized that what is now taking place in the Middle East is the direct result of Israel's intransigence and aggression. He added: We must all help the Palestinians, for they cannot confront Israel's obstinacy alone, particularly in light of the fact that they have been weakened by internal and Arab differences which have created despair within their ranks.

Referring to the Fes peace plan, the Soviet ambassador noted its pragmatic character and the support which the Soviet Union, the socialist countries, and Western Europe have given to it. However, he also said that the Arab countries have done nothing since then to advance this plan.

The Soviet ambassador continued: We are convinced that political means are the only way to find a solution to this problem. However, this does not automatically mean that the Palestinians must lay down their weapons. They should use every means available within the context of reaching this political solution. We must all work toward such a goal through collective efforts.

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war and the Soviet Union's efforts to stop it, the Soviet ambassador said: Our resources are limited. Iran's stand on ending this war is intransigent. We are taking every opportunity and occasion to bring a halt to the fighting.

Referring to Afghanistan, he stated: We are ready to withdraw from Afghanistan on the condition that all others refrain from interfering. Anyhow, we are optimistic. Although they need time, negotiations are underway, he added.

OAU Secretary General Arrives in Tunisia

LD232054 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Mr Ide Oumarou, secretary general of the OAU, arrived in Tunis today. He is expected to hold talks with Mr Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, on strengthening Arab-African cooperation.

Mr Ide Oumarou mentioned on his arrival that the existence of a cooperation agreement, which was signed in Damascus by the OAU and the Arab League, aims at strengthening and reinforcing cooperation between Africa and the Arab world.

He added that the Tunis meeting between the secretaries general of the two organizations comes within this framework, and will enable them to look into the necessary measures to implement the decisions made during the Damascus meeting and especially those related to the holding of an Arab-African ministerial meeting before the end of this year which will be (?followed) by an Arab-African summit conference.

Mr Ide Oumarou pointed out that these two meetings will enable the African Continent and the Arab world to crystallize a unified strategy in order to face the difficult world situation, which is characterized particularly by the critical economic situation, and the troubled situation in the Middle East region and in South Africa.

The OAU secretary general expressed the hope that such meetings will contribute to the fulfillment of the wishes and aspirations of the fraternal Arab and African peoples, which rely a lot on the strengthening of Arab-African cooperation.

PLO Condemns U.S. Actions Against Libya

JN261934 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] An official PLO spokesman has stated the following:

The United States launched an aggression against Libya yesterday, when its planes and missiles belonging to the aircraft carriers of the U.S. 6th Fleet stationed near the Libyan coast bombed some installations in the Libyan Surt area and some Libyan naval units in the territorial waters within the context of an open, aggressive operation, which was for a long time prepared in public and through the provocative war maneuvers by the U.S. 6th Fleet there.

The PLO condemns this flagrant U.S. aggression and considers it a continuation of the aggressive U.S. policy against the Arab people, particularly the Palestinian people. In addition, it is considered a flagrant violation of all international laws and norms, an embodiment of the aggressive U.S.-Israeli alliance against the entire Arab nation, and an application of the policy of domination and hegemony that the United States is trying to impose on the region's people in an attempt to subdue them and peddle its aggressive schemes. While announcing its full solidarity with the fraternal Libyan people, the PLO calls on all the nationalist Arabs to strongly confront this imperialist onslaught and support their brothers in Libya.

Unhesitating Support From 'Arafat

JN261942 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] said in Cairo yesterday that he supports Libya without hesitation or reservations in confronting the insolent aggression by the United States. Abu 'Ammar, who has been paying a working visit to Egypt since last Saturday, told AFP: Regarding the insolent, treacherous U.S. aggression against Libya, we support Libya without hesitation or reservations and with all our capacity. This is something over which we will not hesitate a single second.

Ground Defenses Confront Israeli Planes in Lebanon

Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] A spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command announced a short while ago that at 1120 this morning the Zionist enemy carried out treacherous air raids with U.S.-made F-16's against the ouzskirts of Al-Miyah wa Miyah camp and the (Sirub) area in suburbs of Sidon. These raids were aimed at innocent civilians and continued until 1140.

The Palestinian ground defense confronted the raiding planes and prevented them from achieving their aims. The Palestinian spokesman said that 10 people were killed and 12 injured, most of whom are civilians.

Husayn Reportedly To Close PLO Offices, Deport Staff

NC270932 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait's *AL-ANBA'* has reported King Husayn of Jordan has decided to close the PLO offices there by the end of March. He will deport 100 civilians and military personnel who work in these offices.

Second 'Arafat, Mubarak Meeting Reported

JN261950 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with Egyptian president Husni Mubarak in Cairo this morning for the second time. During the meeting, they discussed the latest developments in the Arab situation, events on various levels, and bilateral relations and ways to bolster them in favor of the goals of our people and our Arab nation.

'Sources' Say Foreign Ministers Preparing Summit

LD271139 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis: Arab diplomatic sources in Tunis have stated that Arab foreign ministers have agreed to undertake urgent measures to hold the postponed Arab summit conference.

The sources add that the Arab League Council, scheduled to end its current session in Tunis today, has agreed to ask Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi to resume preparations for holding the summit conference. The sources add that no provisional date has been fixed for holding the conference.

Soviet Ambassador to Tunisia Comments on PLO

NC211306 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1135 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis, 21 Mar (MENA) — Vselovod Kizichenko, the Soviet Ambassador to Tunisia, has denied that his country has placed conditions on receiving 'Arafat in Moscow. He said: The most we hope for is to find a common ground in the Palestinian arena. The Palestinian revolution groups in Aden and Algiers had at one time agreed upon such a foundation.

In an interview published by the Tunisian *AL-'AMAL* newspaper today, the Soviet ambassador stated that his country considers the Aden and Algiers agreement to be the most suitable basis for understanding among Palestinians.

Yasir 'Arafat is the legally elected PLO Executive Committee chairman, he added. It is in this capacity that he represents the PLO. We know that there has been a great deal of talk about this. Some people say that we did not invite Yasir 'Arafat to attend the 27th CPSU Congress. I like to respond to this by stating that I myself gave 'Arafat an invitation. Like all other invitations, it was not a personal one. The invitation given to Abu

GCC Reportedly To Purchase AWACS-Type Aircraft

LD270947 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1041 GMT 26 Mar 86

[By Jasim Matar]

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 26 Mar (KUNA) — High-level Gulf military sources stated here today that the GCC member-countries are seriously considering purchasing some airborne early-warning aircraft to cover these countries.

The sources explained to KUNA that the six GCC member-countries are currently studying a number of offers concerning advanced early-warning aircraft similar to AWACS, as being used by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. These aircraft will carry out surveillance operations in the airspaces of all GCC member-countries, and will also contribute to exploring territorial waters and their depths.

The sources pointed out that each GCC member-country will own a number of these aircraft. They added that in this respect there will be coordination between these countries.

The sources disclosed that as soon as these aircraft are put in service, military coordination will be established covering information reaching each GCC member-country. Use of this form of aircraft will guarantee complete cover for all parts of these countries.

BAHRAIN

Amir Interviewed on Gulf War, Arab Summit

GF261309 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0550 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpts] London, 26 Mar (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, has described the GCC as an embodiment of the reality being lived in the region and an expression of the ambitions and hopes of its sons. His highness affirmed everyone's desire to bolster the progress of cooperation and to turn it into practical steps which are evident now on the arena of joint work.

In an interview with the magazine *AL-MAJALLAH*, published today in London, his highness expressed hope that the efforts of all parties would be joined together to prevent the escalation of the Iraq-Iran war, which threatens the region's security, peace, and stability. He stated that Bahrain has urged a halt to this destructive war between the two Muslim neighbors, continues, alongside its sister countries in the GCC, to support all of the efforts designed to realize this goal, and supports every initiative in this regard to end the bloodshed and to spare the wasted capabilities and energies, and to utilize them for the purpose of construction and development.

His highness affirmed that Bahrain supports holding an Arab summit conference, after sufficient preparation, to guarantee the achievement of practical results which would serve the march of joint Arab action in a serious and sincere manner and so that the divisions and disputes which plague the Arab ranks will be overcome.

On the economic difficulties of the region, his highness stated that Bahrain continually works to diversify its sources of revenue, in addition to extending support for production in all fields and arranging priorities according to urgent local requirements. He pointed out that, together with its brothers in the GCC, Bahrain seeks to draw up a joint policy to face the economic changes imposed by the fluctuation of international oil prices, which are subject to frequent changes.

KUWAIT

Government Condemns U.S. Bombing of Libyan Positions

LD261321 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1255 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Mar (KUNA) — Kuwait today condemned the shelling of some Libyan positions by the U.S. air forces, "proceeding from Kuwait's principled and declared stance concerning Arab solidarity."

In a statement to KUNA a government spokesman expressed Kuwait's hope that "the incidents will not develop in a way which will require any military or political escalation."

The spokesman affirmed what came in yesterday's Arab League resolution, that "this resolution expresses the unanimous Arab stand on this problem."

PDRY

Al-Bayd, Al-Qadhdhafi Discuss U.S. 'Aggression'

GF262130 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpt] A telephone conversation took place today between Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bayd, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, and Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

During the conversation the brother secretary general expressed the denunciation of the PDRY's party, people, and government of the perfidious U.S. aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriyah and stressed the PDRY's solidarity with the Libyan Jamahiriyah. He pointed out that the YSP and PDRY people are ready to stand by the Libyan people in confronting the aggressive challenges caused by U.S. imperialism designed to harm the gains of the 1 September Revolution. This falls within the framework of the imperialist-Zionist onslaught against the Arab national liberation movement with all of its progressive and national factions.

The brother secretary general termed the perfidious aggression to which Libya has been subjected by the aggressive U.S. forces as constituting an aggression on the PDRY. He lauded the steadfastness of the Libyan people in the face of this aggression.

On the other hand, Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi expressed his appreciation for the solidarity of the PDRY and the YSP with the Libyan people in this ordeal. Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi explained the situation resulting from the U.S. aggression and the preparations of the Libyan people to defend their national sovereignty and their audacious revolution.

Official Phones Support to Jallud

GF261726 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and secretary of the Central Committee, expressed the PDRY's denunciation of the tyrannical U.S. aggression against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He also affirmed our country's principled and firm stance and solidarity with the fraternal Libyan people in their firm confrontation of this aggression.

This was affirmed during his telephone conversation today with Brother 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the historic leadership of the 1 September Revolution and Libyan prime minister, who affirmed the Libyan people's readiness to repulse any U.S. attempt to attack the Jamahiriyah and their readiness to protect the sovereignty of Libyan and Arab territory.

Political Bureau Supports Libya

GF261955 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The YSP Political Bureau has strongly denounced the U.S. aggression and plots against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

It affirmed the support of the PDRY people, party, and government for the Libyan people in their steadfastness in confronting the U.S. aggression designed to foil Libya's sovereignty and national independence, to curb the changes currently occurring inside it, and to undermine its liberation policy against imperialism, Zionism, and racism.

This came during an extraordinary meeting of the YSP Political Bureau held this afternoon. During the meeting the YSP Political Bureau discussed the military events in the Gulf of Sidra against Libya which has resulted in the U.S. armed aggression against Libya and its national sovereignty.

The YSP Political Bureau appeals to the masses to elevate the condition of total awareness and readiness to confront the escalation of U.S. intervention against our Arab countries. It also calls on the Arab systems and the national progressive parties and powers to seriously confront and defeat this aggression and to direct and mobilize the Arab masses to defend the sovereignty of the Arab territories and to consolidate Arab solidarity against imperialism.

The YSP Political Bureau adopted quick and necessary measures to support the brothers in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and their revolutionary leadership, led by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, stemming from the unified fate and the goals which link both the Yemeni and Libyan revolutions.

USSR Envoy Protests 'Wrong Texting' of Communique

GF261303 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 25 Mar 86 p 19

[Text] Aden — The USSR ambassador in Aden has submitted a memorandum of protest to the Yemeni authorities for omitting sentences in the press communique issued in Moscow by representatives from Aden and the Soviet leadership concerning the part dealing with the national reconciliation. The USSR ambassador in Aden stated that he informed the secretary of foreign affairs of the YSP Central Committee that a correction and an apology must be made and that the press communique must be published in its entirety in both Arabic and Russian.

QATAR

Papers Denounce U.S. 'Aggression' Against Libya

GF261234 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0915 GMT 26 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 26 Mar (WAKH) — Qatari papers today denounce and condemn the U.S. aggression against Libya, describing it as a violation of international conventions and law, and an aggression against a country which is a member of the United Nations and possesses all of the rights of sovereignty over its territory and territorial waters.

The papers emphasize the need to adopt an Arab stand to confront such an act, in view of the fact that Libya is an Arab country and a member of the Arab League and any aggression against it is an aggression against the entire nation.

The English-language *GULF TIMES* condemns the method used by the United States against Libya. It affirms this Arab country's right to confront the U.S. fleet or any other fleet that violates its territorial waters and rights.

The newspaper *AL-'ARAB* says that it has been evident ever since U.S. warships deployed off the Libyan shores that the military machine of this superpower is looking for a justification to direct a strong attack, which would achieve what the United States has failed to achieve by political and diplomatic means.

The newspaper *AL-KHALIJ AL-YAWM* urges the international community to do its duty to defend the principles and rights of the peoples. The paper states that what the United States is practicing against Libya contradicts the principles of justice and the world's security and peace.

Foreign Minister Returns From Tunisia

GF261956 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1835 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Doha, 26 Mar (WAKH) — Qatari Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn Sayf Al Thani returned to Doha today from Tunis after attending the 85th session of the Arab League Council.

UAE

Government Condemns U.S. 'Violation' Against Libya

GF270552 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Mar (WAKH) — The UAE has expressed great anxiety over the serious military escalation in the Gulf of Sidra which has resulted from the U.S. aggression against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

An official source has stated that the UAE, while condemning this aggression as a flagrant violation of the sovereignty, independence, and integrity of Libyan territory, emphasizes its solidarity with the Libyan Jamahiriyah and expresses hope that this escalation which threatens the security and peace of all the Arab countries, threatens security in the Mediterranean, and poses a danger to international security and peace, will end.

AL-KHALIJ: Confrontation With Libya Defeats U.S.

GF270656 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0615 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 27 Mar (WAM) — The Al-Shariqah-based newspaper *AL-KHALIJ* asserts that the United States was defeated by the first missile it fired at Libya "since the moment when the first missile was fired marked the diminishment of the size of the United States to a size equal to that of Libya."

The newspaper says that the U.S. aggression has revealed the erroneousness of the calculations which used to claim that U.S. power is invincible and cannot be repelled. The paper adds that the aggression on Libya "has proved that there are limits to any power, however great. It has also proved that willpower in the first place and awareness of the equations of international relations and their balancing in the second place are capable of limiting U.S. power and the power of other parties."

The paper asserts that the real confrontation which took place between a small country and a great power was a historic opportunity to prove the inability of the superior military capabilities of the United States to face any people if they are armed with the will to fight, and with an understanding of political equations and international interests, in which case such people can reveal the limits of U.S. power."

The paper refers to the role which the Lebanese people and their Palestinian and Syrian allies played against the U.S. forces in 1983. The paper asks: "Did they not compel Washington to withdraw its marines?"

The paper wonders: "When will the Lebanese and Libyan experiences become a method in Arab policy? When will the Arabs specifically agree that the path to the solution of their problems is to expose the limits of U.S. power by confronting the United States?"

Ghali Views Mubarak-'Arafat Talks, Tabah Issue

NC261333 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has emphasized that Egypt will continue its efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in athe Middle East, taking into consideration the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

In an exclusive statement to our radio correspondent, Dr Ghali added that since the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty was signed on 26 March 1979, several obstacles have surfaced. Despite these obstacles, Egypt is determined to continue its efforts to achieve lasting and comprehensive peace.

Dr Ghali pointed out that the purpose of President Mubarak's talks with Yasir 'Arafat is to bring the Palestinian and the Jordanian standpoints closer. He expressed hope that today's negotiations in Hertzliyya will lead to an agreement resolving the Tabah issue through international arbitration. He added that such a solution would remove one of the obstacles that hinder the efforts for peace.

Ghali on Entebbe Summit, Nile-Basin Relations

NC261545 Cairo MENA in English 1420 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 26 (MENA) — Egypt welcomed today the resolutions of the Entebbe summit that ended in Uganda on Monday. The Entebbe resolutions stressed the importance of sticking to the principle of peaceful coexistence and non-interference into home affairs of others in implementation of the regional African security.

Meanwhile, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali said today that Egypt has followed up sittings of the conference that comprised presidents of Uganda, Kenya, Zaire, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania and the Sudan. Dr. Ghali noted that the meeting is a positive step towards consolidating relations between the Nile Basin countries.

Ghali Discusses 1979 Treaty With Israel

NC270749 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has denied that the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty limits Egypt's policy and freedom to seek a framework to negotiate settlement of the Palestinian issue. He said that peace is the basic commitment in the treaty.

In a statement to the *AL-AKHBAR* newspaper, published on the 7th anniversary of the treaty, Ghali noted that when Egypt wants to criticize Israel's policies and actions, it does so with in full voice. When Israel invaded Lebanon, Egypt recalled its ambassador from Tel Aviv. Ghali added that when Israel does something that deserves to be condemned, we condemn it in Cairo at the United Nations, and in all international forums.

Dr Ghali stated that the peace process has neither prevented Egypt from supporting the PLO nor from submitting to the UN Security Council an Egyptian-French draft resolution containing the elements and principles of a settlement. Furthermore, this process would not have prevented Egypt from welcoming and calling for an international conference on peace in the Middle East.

Dr Ghali explained that Egypt has never claimed that the peace treaty with Israel is the best framework or the only way to achieve peace, adding that Egypt welcomes any other type for a settlement that would enable the Palestinian people to exercise their full rights.

Regarding the Tabah problem, Ghali said that negotiations on this are continuing and that the dispute over this strip of land, which is not more than one feddan [4,200 square meters], will be settled through arbitration.

6th Round of Tabah Talks Resumes in Tel Aviv

NC261628 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The sixth round of Egyptian-Israeli talks on Tabah began in Herzliyya today. The members of the Egyptian delegation, led by Nabil al-'Arabi, legal adviser at the Foreign Ministry, arrived in Tel Aviv last night. The negotiations deal with the formulation of a document on a solution to the Tabah problem through international arbitration.

Second Session Concludes

NC262118 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The second session of talks between Egypt and Israel on the terms of arbitration for the Tabah issue concluded at Herzliyya, Tel Aviv, this evening. The talks are scheduled to resume tomorrow morning.

'Aziz Addresses Arab League Political Committee

JN261642 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, has said that Iraq considers safeguarding Arab territory a principle that is not subject to any marginal considerations or individual judgments. In a speech at the conclusion of the political committee's deliberations on the Iraq-Iran war and the U.S.-Libyan situation last night, Tariq 'Aziz said Iraq's stand stems from its adherence to the provisions of the Joint Arab Defense Pact.

The political committee adopted two resolutions stressing the Arab League member-states' solidarity with Iraq and Libya in defending their territorial integrity, indpendence, and security despite the Syrian and Libyan representatives' reservations about the resolution condemning the Iranian aggression against Iraqi territory and Iranian threats to the Arab Gulf states.

Khayrallah on Situation in Al-Faw, Iranian Losses

JN262056 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister, has affirmed that the Iranian forces have so far sustained more losses in the Al-Faw battle than in any previous battle. In a press conference today attended by Arab and international news agency, newspaper, and radio correspondents, Khayrallah said that the Iranian enemy had from the outset failed to achieve the objectives of its offensive on the Iraqi border in the III and VII Army Corps sectors. He said that the ruling regime in Tehran has placed itself at an impasse before the Iranian people and the world. He added that through their failed offensive, the aggressors had attempted to isolate the III Army Corps in east Al-Basrah from the VII Army Corps, which is defending the Shatt al-'Arab, saying that they wanted Umm al-Rasas Island to be a foothold for their forces to implement their second plan, which is gaining a foothold on land and isolating the two army corps.

The defense minister added that Iraqi forces are ceaselessly working for the liberation of the Al-Faw area with the fewest sacrifices and by inflicting the heaviest losses on the attacking Iranian forces. He said that decisive and certain victory will be theirs. He explained that the battles in the Al-Faw area are being waged on marshlands whose soil is composed of river sediment. Subterranean water is plentiful in this area, which greatly limits the deployment of heavy weapons.

Comments on Libya, Size of Forces

JN262030 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1755 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Hasan al-Kashif dispatch from Baghdad]

[Text] Iraq is against the attack on Libya; there are regular Arab forces in Iraq, but on the second line; we will fight alongside Kuwait if it is attacked by Iran; the Al-Faw battle took a long time and may take more time; Britain advised Tehran to commit aggression against the Al-Faw peninsula — these are some of the headlines of the press conference which Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Iraqi Armed Forces, held in Basra late this afternoon.

Regarding Iraq's position on the U.S. aggression against Libya, especially since Libya supports Iran, Khayrallah said: We are nationalists and consider Arab territory and the Arab people to be one people. We are an Arab League member-state and consider any aggression against any Arab country an aggression against us. We therefore place our capabilities in the service of defending the country. We are against the aggression although we admit that leader al-Qadhdhafi is responsible for the provocative practices. In any case, there is an attempt to turn leader Al-Qadhdhafi into a pan-Arab hero. He is not so and his stand on our people in Iraq is known.

Asked about the presence of regular Arab forces in Iraq, he said: Yes, they are present, but in very small numbers and on the second line. I asked him about Iraq's stand if Kuwait's Bubiyan Island is exposed to an Iranian military action. He replied: If Kuwait or Bubiyan are exposed to an Iranian invasion, we will stand on the side of our brothers even if they do not ask us to do so. Our security and theirs is one and cannot be separated. The danger of Iranian occupation of Bubiyan is possible and is obvious in Iranian officials' statements. Our concern over our brothers in Kuwait is legitimate. If they need our help we will not hesitate in giving it and we have the ability to do so.

Asked why the battle has continued for such a long time, he said: The battle has been longer than all previous battles, and I expect it to continue longer compared with previous battles. I cannot set a date, but I am committed to expelling them from our territory with the smallest possible losses on our side and with the largest possible losses on their side. We will not stop, and technically the battle requires time. Bombardment does not settle the battle, but is responsible for removing their divisions from the battlefield. We are using our weapons and men correctly at the correct time and place. I am not worried about the results or the progress of the battle. We take the worst possibilities into account; we do not dismiss any eventuality. In all cases, they failed to dislodge our forces or preoccupy the General Command. All their losses were to no avail.

Regarding the size of the Iranian forces in the Al-Faw peninsula, he said: They have four to five guards divisions, in addition to one regular brigade from the 21st Division, in the Al-Faw peninsula, which is 12 km long and 8 km wide. Supporting them requires simple tools. Providing them with ammunition for light and medium weapons is not a complicated matter. The terrain is difficult because of the sea's contact with the land and the accumulation of silt. The soil is soft. The strategic targets are here and the Kuwaiti border is here too.

Staff Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah implicitly accused Britain of advising Iran to commit aggression in this area. He said: The advice given dates back to the experience of 1917 [the Balfour Declaration]. He smiled and added: Abu Naji was not far away. Abu Naji is the Iraqis' name for Britain.

Iraq's relations with Moscow are excellent and arms relations between them are also good. Our relations with Washington were restored after a long break. The U.S. Administration is good. It is for an end to the war. Syria and Libya have a public alliance with Iran, and they have a common goal against Iraq. They give advice and expertise to Iran and constitute a third party in Iran's armament deals with some international parties.

This is a summary of the most important points which the Iraqi defense minister made here late this afternoon.

Assembly Deputy Speaker Meets Kuwaiti Delegation

JN261426 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] National Assembly Deputy Speaker Bah'a al-Din Ahmad received the Kuwaiti National Assembly delegation currently visiting the country this morning. The fraternal delegation hailed the valiant Iraqi Army's heroic epics against the aggression of the despotic clique in Iran. They expressed their strong condemnation of the treasonous practices of the Al-Asad and Al-Qadhdhafi regimes represented by their support for the Khomeyni aggression against the Arab nation.

The Kuwaiti National Assembly delegation reiterated the stand of the Arab masses in Kuwait alongside Iraq's heroes in their heroic defense under President Saddam Husayn against the Khomeyni aggression on Arab territory.

Baha' al-Din Ahmad hailed fraternal Kuwait's genuine pan-Arab stand, which embodies the unity of Arab destiny.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

'Large Maritime Target' Hit 26 Mar

JN261858 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1846 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Continuing to reinforce the siege around the sources which the criminal Iranian regime exploits in fueling the aggression, our giant Air Force planes carried out a successful raid at 1800 [1500 GMT] today against a large maritime target near the Iranian coast, scoring a direct, effective hit. Our brave eagles returned with their planes to the homeland safely and triumphantly with God's protection.

[Dated] 26 March 1986

'Large Maritime Target' Hit 27 Mar

JN270947 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0932 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our powerful Air Force planes launched a successful raid against a large maritime target off the Iranian coast at 0910 [0610 GMT] today. Our planes scored an accurate, effective hit and returned safely to base, God be praised.

[Dated] 27 March 1986

Iran Bridge Near Dezful Destroyed

JN270945 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0922 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Iraqi bombers today raided an extremely important railway bridge northeast of Dezful, completely destroying it and turning it into burning junk. In a statement to INA today, a military spokesman said that the (Talat Zang) bridge is used by the Iranian forces as an important crossing for transferring supplies, troops, weapons, and equipment. He said that the bridge connects Dezful with Qom and Tehran and is one of the most important crossing points between south and north Iran and is heavily used for purposes of aggression.

The spokesman noted that all the planes returned safely to base after carrying out the raid.

Iranian F-4 Shot Down

JN271017 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1003 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Iraqi air defenses shot down an Iranian F-4 plane on the VII Army Corps front today. A military source told INA that two Iranian planes attempted to penetrate the Iraqi international border in the VII Army Corps sector but our air defense means intercepted them and shot down one plane whose pilot was seen bailing out in front of an Iraqi forward unit.

Ganaveh Oil Terminal Raided

JN271208 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1202 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes launched a destructive raid against the Iranian Ganaveh oil terminal this afternoon. A military spokesman told INA that the Iraqi planes hit their targets and set them alight at 1215 [0915 GMT] today before returning safely to base. The spokesman said that the Iraqi planes will continue their strikes against the Iranian regime to prevent it from utilising its resources for evil, aggressive purposes.

Iran Oil Pipeline Complex Raided

GF271204 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1145 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The blows of our valiant air force fall repeatedly on the heads of the rascally aggressors to prevent them from exploiting their resources for their evil and hostile purposes.

At 1215 [0915 GMT] today, the courageous eagles launched a destructive raid on an oil pipeline diversion junction complex in (Jamara). They hit their targets and set them on fire. They then returned with their planes safely and victoriously to the homeland. God be praised in victory at all times.

[Dated] 27 March 1986.

Three Iranian Camps Raided

JN271521 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1512 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes carried out fierce raids on three Iranian military camps this afternoon after which they safely returned to base. A military spokesman told INA that the Iraqi fighter planes carried out a fierce raid against Robat camp at 1242 today [0942 GMT], inflicting heavy losses in weapons, equipment, and personnel on the enemy. The spokesman added that Iraqi planes also raided the Moshk camp at 1435 [1135 GMT] today, inflicting further heavy losses in weapons, personnel, and ammunition depots on the Iranian forces.

The spokesman explained that other Iraqi fighter planes carried out a third raid on Galdian camp at 1630 [1330 GMT], inflicting heavy losses in personnel, weapons, and military hardware on the Iranian forces.

Communique No 2,163

JN261729 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,163 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As an expression of the great Iraqi people's will, our valiant Armed Forces will continue their heroic fighting until they attain their great objective of purging the land and destroying the aggressors.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. Our triumphant forces in the valiant Al-Rashid and northern columns continued to direct concentrated fire at the aggressor forces. Supported by the continuous, strong fire of our Air Force, artillery, and Navy both day and night, our forces inflicted heavy losses on the aggressors' personnel, equipment, weapons, and hardware.

2. Today our brave eagles continued their bold attacks on the concentrations of the rogues, destroying their vehicles, equipment, and weapons. They achieved the following: a) They carried out 76 combat missions; b) a devastating raid on the Musai. camp; c) squadrons of our planes delivered concentrated strikes against a number of enemy vehicles, caravans, hideouts, and ammunition dumps in an area opposite Panjwin, destroying 30 vehicles, 35 caravans, 11 hideouts — 6 of which were very large and used for vehicles and hardware — and several personnel positions, in addition to several ammunition dumps. The brave eagles returned safely in God's care and protection after carrying out all their missions.

3. Our units in the I Army Corps northern sector engaged enemy units, vehicles, and engineering works with all types of weapons, destroying two armored personnel carriers, two vehciles, and one excavator. They also damaged another excavator and burned two ammunition dumps. They also seized the following articles: a) two RPK machineguns; b) one radio; c) one RPG-7 launcher; d) large stockpiles of serviceable hardware.

4. The criminal enemy forces shelled the suburbs of Khanaqin, Biyarah, Tawilah, and Khurmal with long-range artillery, damaging two houses in Tawilah.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 March 1986

Israeli Warplanes Hit Palestinian Camps Near Sidon

Israelis Launch Strike

NC270936 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon English
0933 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Ladies, gentlemen: Since 1015 this morning, Israeli warplanes have been bombarding the Palestinian camps of 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah wa Miyah in the south. There is as yet no Israeli confirmation of this raid.

Second Wave Hits Camps

NC271001 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0946 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Israeli warplanes carried out air strikes at 1120 today against the Palestinian camps of 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah wa Miyah, as well as (Tallat Sirub) in the periphery of Sidon. Preliminary reports speak of casualties.

20 Casualties Reported

NC271015 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English
1008 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The French press agency has quoted its correspondent in south Lebanon that the first result of the three Israeli raids against the Palestinian camp of Al-Miyah wa Miyah and its periphery, particularly the (Sirubiyah hill) was 20 casualties between dead and wounded.

The casualties have been rushed to the Hammud Hospital in the nearby city of Sidon. The agency said this is the second such raid since the beginning of the year.

Artillery Bombards Villages

NC271029 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Israeli enemy escalated its aggressive operations against the south today, shelling the 'Ayn al-Hulwah area for a second time at 1130. A squadron of enemy warplanes had raided this same area at 1115. Al-Miyah wa Miyah, Al-Mayrub, and 'Ayn al-Hulwah were among the areas bombarded. The warplanes had flown at a low altitude for some time before striking. Smoke was seen billowing from the bombarded areas, and casualties were reported. Ambulances also have been seen in the area.

In another development, artillery belonging to the enemy and its agents shelled the townships of Qilya and 'Ayn al-Tinah, as well as areas in southwest Al-Biqa', wounding some citizens. The shelling reached as far as Lebanese Army positions near the Al-Layah checkpoint. The Lebanese Army returned fire and shelled an enemy agent position near Lusi farm from its location near Al-Qir'awn lake, scoring direct hits.

Fatah Radio Station, Camps Hit

NC271039 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1017 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Israeli warplanes carried out two raids against Fatah positions in the Al-Miyah wa Miyah camp and (Tallat Sirub) this morning, as well as striking at the areas between them. The Israeli warplanes used missiles in their attacks. Columns of smoke were seen billowing from these positions. The Voice of Lebanon has learned that the Israeli warplanes raided a Fatah radio station building located on the (Tallat Sirub) road, the Al-Miyah wa Miyah camp, and a Fatah training camp in the area. Israeli warplanes currently are carrying out overflights of the area.

10 Killed in Air Strikes

NC271136 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1120 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Israeli warplanes carried out two raids against Palestinian positions this morning. A third raid was undertaken against positions held by the Nasirite Popular Army and Islamic groups in areas around Sidon. According to the latest reports from Sidon, the number of people killed has risen to 10.

Israeli Troops Land

NC271230 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] According to reports from the south, the Israeli occupation forces have landed troops in the townships of Shaqra and Hulah after four helicopters combed the area. The enemy then massed troops between Hulah checkpoint and Dibbi fortress. Ten Merkava tanks were brought to the area in addition to the helicopters.

The Israeli occupation forces and their militias in Jabal Safi shelled the villages of Jarju', Jba', and 'Arab Salim last night causing material damage. The enemy later shelled Kafr Milki village, wounding citizen Muhammad Ballut.

'Resistance' Carries Out Operations in South

NC261822 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] A National Resistance group clashed this morning with a patrol from agent Lahd's militia on the Marwahin Road, in the western sector. Rockets and automatic weapons were used, and three members of the patrol were either killed or wounded. The group managed to return to base.

The martyr 'Ali Shu'aytu unit of the National Resistance detonated an explosive charge as two vehicles used by Israeli intelligence passed by on the Al-Khardali Bridge-Marj 'Uyun Road. One of them was destroyed, killing three intelligence operatives. Reinforcements arrived at the scene immediately and three citizens were detained.

The National Resistance has also announced that some of its fighters attacked an agent Lahd position in Bayt Yahun at dawn today with rockets and automatic weapons. The post was hit squarely and the fighters returned to base with only one member of the group slightly wounded.

Israelis, Lahd Storm Villages, Stop Merchant Ship

NC261833 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The Israeli occupation forces, accompanied by Lahd's militiamen, stormed the villages of Shab'a, Kafr Shuba, and Rashayya al-Fukhkhar today. Local residents were herded into public squares, where they were interrogated and searched. They also were accused of dealing with members of the Lebanese National Resistance, and of covering their tracks in the aforementioned towns. This coincided with the presence of Israeli gunboats along the southern coast and their interception of a merchant ship off Al-Zahrani.

Al-Jumayyil Expresses Support for Libya

NC261724 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1647 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil today made a telephone call to Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to inquire about the events that have taken place in the Gulf of Sidra in the past 2 days. President al-Jumayyil told Col al-Qadhdhafi that Lebanon believes in strengthening and developing Arab solidarity and denounces any aggression against the sovereignty of a fraternal Arab state. He said that Lebanon stands by the Libyan Jamahiriyah in defending its territorial integrity and sovereignty. The president of the Republic also sent a message to Col al-Qadhdhafi on recent local and regional developments and Lebanon's position on them.

PSP Offers Suicide Squads to Libya

NC270548 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0544 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], has sent a cable of support to Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. In his cable, Junblatt says: We hail with full pride and admiration your heroic confrontation of the reckless imperialist attacks on our cherished Arab waters. We hereby reiterate the PSP leadership's militant support for your legitimate defense of the entire Arab nation. On this occasion, we declare that the PSP forces are ready to join the suicide squads and participate in strikes on U.S. interests wherever they may be.

Journalist Discusses Meeting With Syria's Khaddam

NC261841 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Following his meeting with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus, Milhim Karam, chairman of the Lebanese Editors Association, said that he discerned a profound understanding of all the issues that were discussed. He stated: With regard to Lebanon, Khaddam thinks that Syria has done a great deal for it and will continue to work on behalf of Lebanon's integrity and interests. Syria supports and gives its blessing to whatever the Lebanese people agree upon. Syria has done its best to facilitate the mission of papal envoy Silvestrini.

As for the issue of the south, Karam said: In Khaddam's view, this is a Lebanese affair. Syria is not against the implementation of UN Resolution 425, but it does not support any security arrangements that amount to a return to the 17 May agreement.

Karam added: Khaddam things that it is unlikely that an Arab summit conference will be held in the present situation. He is of the opinion that Syria's relations with Iran are sound and its relations with the Soviet Union are (?growing). If Israel embarks on war with Syria, its losses will be grave. Indeed, he believes that, were such a war to take place, it would be a serious affair, not without consequences.

Amal Ends Participation in Strike Force

NC270705 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] According to security sources in West Beirut, the Amal Movement stopped participating in the joint strike force 3 days ago. Consequently, the strike force's activities in certain areas, particularly where Hizballah has offices, have been obstructed. The sources add that a number of confiscated weapons are unaccounted for at the strike force command center. The Amal Movement and the Progressive Socialist Party have charged one another with stealing 15 pistols.

Envoy Says USSR Will Support UNIFIL Extension

NC261314 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Today in Mansur Palace, Munir Abu Fadil, deputy speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, met with the charges d'affairs of the five countries that are permanent members of the UN Security Council and with the ambassadors of the countries participating in UNIFIL. Deputies for the south took part in the session. The goal of the meeting was to facilitate the mission of the parliamentary delegations that will travel to several capitals to explain the situation in the south and explore ways to implement Resolution 425 and to renew the UNIFIL mandate.

During the meeting, Yuriy Suslikov, the Soviet charge d'affaires, said that his country will vote in favor of the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate this time. The Soviet Union so far consistently has abstained from voting on this issue. Suslikov denied any knowledge of his country's intention to finance UNIFIL.

Army Claims 'New Forces' Involved in Shelling

NC261553 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Statement issued by the Army Command Guidance Directorate on 26 March]

[Text] Certain armed groups in Beirut and the mountain area, and particularly in upper Al-Matn, have been exacerbating the military situation in the past 3 days to achieve known aims and goals. The Army's positions and installations, and populated areas in Beirut and Al-Duwwar, have been shelled at different times in order to aggravate the situation in the country. The Army Command has issued a warning to those who perpetrate these events, which bring destruction and ruination to all Lebanese citizens.

At 0915 this morning, 26 March, rockets suddenly rained down on the Army's positions in Al-Duwwar. Some rockets landed in towns and villages in Al-Matn, and others, fired from 'Aynturah, fell on B'abdat. Dozens of rockets fell on the townships of Rumiyah, Brummanah, and Al-Duwwar and on the Al-Matn coast at about 1005.

These operations inflicted human losses among military personnel and innocent civilians and caused damage to property. It appears from the heavy weapons used that new forces are participating in the intensified shelling. In view of this painful situation, the Army Command was compelled to return fire everywhere in order to silence it at the source and to safeguard the lives of military personnel and civilians.

The Army Command will not hesitate to defend its positions. This new warning is directed at those who are trying to ignite the fires of war again in pursuit of known objectives.

Shellfire, Fighting in Mountain Areas

NC271130 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1115 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The areas of Bayt Miri, Brummanah, and B'abdat are now coming under shellfire. Clashes involving the use of large-caliber weapons also are raging along the combat lines of Al-Dawwar, Al-'Ayrun, Bikfayya, and Tallat Mar Ilyas. Security sources believe that the situation will only continue to deteriorate in view of the fact that this shelling was preceded by a declared state of alert among gunmen in upper Al-Matn.

State, Party, People Condemn U.S. Libyan Attack

Qaddah Addresses Anti-U.S. Rally

JN271024 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0739 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Speech by Dr Sulayman Qaddah, assistant regional secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, before an anti-U.S. rally in Damascus 27 March 1986]

[Excerpts] Hafiz al-Asad's Damascus marches with its proud masses to voice its extreme anger and to condemn the U.S. imperialist aggression against the fraternal Libyan Jamahiriyah and to affirm to our fraternal Libyan Arab people that it is with them with its manpower and resources, hand in hand and shoulder to shoulder out of its unshakable belief that the confrontation against the enemy is the same even if conducted in different arenas. The confrontation is the same whether in Palestine, the Golan, Lebanon, the occupied Arab territory, or Surt and Tripoli. It is one front against one enemy, who seeks to dominate the Arab region and its resources and to usurpt Arab territory and give it to the Zionist enemy.

O masses of our people, the U.S. Administration's aggression against the fraternal Libyan Jamahiriyah has not come as a surprise to anyone, because it expresses the aggressive, provocative nature characterizing U.S. policy, especially under the Reagan administration, which continues to believe that the policy of terrorism and threats can undermine the determination of militant nations and suppress their will. Thus, the U.S. Administration has proceeded with plans to dominate the world and to keep it under the burden of monopoly to control the resources of nations. To carry out those plans. the U.S. Administration reinforces its military power, masses fleets, and establishes rapid deployment forces to suppress nations. Our Arab region features significantly in those plans in view of its strategic position and abundant economic and human resources. However, those plans have collided with an impregnable barrier represented by our country's splendid steafastness and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's revolutionary adamance.

The U.S. design in Lebanon has been thwarted and the Camp David accords are relenting under the blows of our proud people in Arab Egypt. Therefore, U.S. imperialism, known for its aggressive nature, has resorted to launching its armed aggression against the Libyan territory. Here also, Zionist provocations and enemy leaders' threatening statements intensify daily against our country's steafastness. Their aim is to save the capitulation line, breath life to its dilapidated tools, and spread fear among those opposing this line.

The flagrant, impertinent U.S. aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah represents a new, serious phase of hegemony, especially after the failure of all the U.S. attempts to achieve this hegemony through the Zionist entity. U.S. imperialist circles should have learned their lesson from their earlier defeat in Vietnam and their recent defeat in Lebanon and realized that the determination and will of nations are storngerthan what they possess in terms of material and military resources. The strugglers who have preferred martyrdom so their nation can live have left no choice for the enemies of their nation other than the choice of defeat and shame.

Proud masses of our people, the fleets and planes of the aggressors only scare the coward and hesitant. As for the steadfast, who have chosen the path of struggle and sacrifice, the path of confrontation for the sake of liberating the land and the nation's will and achieving the aspirations of unity, freedom, and socialism, their determination to confront and make sacrifices toughens with every aggression they face.

Arab Syria, under the leadership of our great party and its secretary general comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, declares today with all strength and determination that aggression on the Libyan Jamahiriyah is aggression against it and the Arab nation. It affirms that the new U.S. military aggression is a link in a long chain of aggression, one of whose links we destroyed in Lebanon. We will destroy its other links directed against Libya and any other part of Arab territory.

If by their aggression against fraternal Libya, U.S. imperialists think they are instilling fear and terror in our hearts, then we say that they will only reap defeat and death. Peoples who have chosen the path of struggle will defeat all the forces of injustice and aggression. Those in the White House who are motivated by monopolist interests seem to forget that the wheel of history does not turn backward and that the system of imperialist and colonial plunder collapsed decades ago. Peoples' determination to attain their rights and safeguard their honor and independence will not be deterred by imperialism's show of force and firepower.

Masses of our proud nation, the dirty plot implemented by U.S. imperialism and its Zionist ally will be defeated and the Arab nation's willpower will triumph. We are strong as long as we believe we have a just cause and we are powerful as long as we are determined to achieve victory.

As for you, O brothers in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, remain steadfast, fight, and defend, because you are fighting for and defending the cause of the entire Arab nation. Rest assured that we are with you. You will not be alone against aggression or the threat to use aggression. [applause and cheers] Our leader, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, has affirmed these facts to the leader of your revolution, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdahfi [applause]. It is also part of our belief. O Libyan brothers, you are not alone. You are backed by all the Arab masses and the progressive, liberation peace, and justice forces. You will triumph with your nation's support, just as your nation triumphs with the support of its struggler sons. Revolutionary greetings to you from your Arab people in Arab Syria. We wish you an early victory.

Cabinet Stresses Support for Libya

JN261244 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Damascus — The Council of Ministers met under Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm at 1100 today. It conducted a political review of the current developments in the region. The Council of Ministers stressed the U.S. aggression against fraternal Libya is a provocative operation and a serious form of political and military terrorism by the United States against fraternal Libya and the entire Arab nation, and that this hostile U.S. policy is not new, because the United States has practiced and is still practicing this.

The Council of Ministers stressed Syria's resolute support for fraternal Libya. It also stressed the need for achieving an effective solidarity to confront the U.S. aggression, because through solidarity and steadfastness, the United States will never be able to achieve any of its objectives which are hostile to the Arab nation.

Popular Groups Denounce U.S.

JN261700 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus — Popular organizations in Syria issued a statement today condemning the U.S. aggression against fraternal Libya. The statement says: After a series of provocative military maneuvers in the eastern Mediterranean, the U.S. Administration launched a clearly insolent aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah under weak pretexts. This clearly reveals the reality of U.S. ambitions in the Arab region, as well as its attempts to impose hegemony and dominate the destiny of the peoples struggling for their freedom and ndependence.

The statement adds: With its heinous act, the U.S. Administration has proved it can no longer tolerate witnessing peoples acquiring the means to defend their territories, their national resources, and their right to adopt the policy which expresses their interests. The world has recently, especially during Reagan's reign, witnessed a U.S. escalation of the state of war in many areas of the world and in our Arab region in particular.

The statements says: The core of the U.S. policy lies in the attempt to impose monopoly interests on states against the peoples' wills. To achieve this objective, the U.S. Administration clings to all kinds of flimsy pretexts which have become clear to our people and all peoples of the world. The statement adds: in implementation of that aggressive policy, the United States assembled its fleets in Lebanese waters supported by NATO fleets and forces to support the Zionist aggression against Lebanese territory, terrorize the heroic steadfastness of our people and country, and impose treasonous accords which suspend the inalienable and national rights of our people and nation. The 17 May accord was one example of these accords. The U.S. Administration continues to extend all forms of military and economic might to practice its continuous aggression against the Arab nation. The United States is now crowning those provocations with a barbarous and clear aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, a fraternal Arab country whose people and leadership stand against hostile schemes.

The popular organizations' statement affirms that the U.S. aggression exposes the Arab nation to international terrorism by the Washington-Tel Aviv alliance and the forces of international imperialism. This makes us dutybound to confront U.S. international terrorism and to prove to the world that the Arab nation can repulse and confront the aggression and that these nations' sons are brave, ready to offer sacrifices, believe in the justice of the Arab cause, and have the means to punish aggressors and foil the schemes of Washington and Tel Aviv.

The statement adds: While strongly condemning the U.S. aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the popular organizations in Syria warn the United States about the consequences of its aggression, which puts international security and peace in danger. The popular organizations affirm their stand alongside our people in the Jamahiriyah to topple and foil the U.S. schemes, affirming their confidence in victory.

Aggression Flaunts Law, Morals

JN261346 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, the United States was defeated in the Mediterranean the moment it began its aggressive military acts against the Libyan Jamahiriyah. This defeat will have its effect on the future of U.S. relations, economic interests, positions, and influences in the Middle East — an effect which will not be in line with U.S. dreams of dominating the region and its wealth. The U.S. aggression against Libya will not be a glorious page in American history, because it is an unjustifiable aggression that cannot be defended under any international law, pact, or agreement. This aggression is contrary to international law and morals.

If what is between the United States, which has dispatched its forces to Libyan waters some thousands of kilometers from the United States, and Libya, which is defending its territory, air space, and waters, reminds many people in the world of the well-known story of the wolf and the lamb, we say that Libya is not a lamb which the American wolf can easily attack and devour, and achieve its main objectives in the region. Libya is supported by forces which enjoy a big weight regionally and internationally. These forces will not allow aggressive U.S. arrogance to act belligerently and play with steel and fire in this part of the world, with its vested regional and international interests, and make it part of U.S. national security or a zone of influence for a forward American base; namely, Israel. Foremost of the forces supporting Libya are Syria, the USSR, the Arab liberation movement and its revolutionary forces and capabilities, and all world nations and forces that love freedom, peace, progress, and justice in this world.

Dispatching some planes to attack targets in Libyan waters and territories will neither scare Libya nor the peoples of the region. It is not an indication of strength, but rather of moral and political weakness and of the U.S. rulers' inability to achieve their objectives. It is an indication of these rulers' opposition to international detente and peoples' rights and their pursuance of the policy of armed force, terrorism, and aggression.

The whole world knows that the freedom of navigation in the Mediterranean has never been threatened at any time. The one threatening this freedom is the United States, which hijacked an Egyptian airliner in international air space, and Israel, the ally of the biggest imperialist power, the United States, which has interfered and continues to interfere with the freedom of international aviation and shipping in the Mediterranean. When Libya replies to the impudent attack on its air space, waters, and territories it is in fact exercising its legitimate rights of self-defense, guaranteed under the UN Charter and international law. Any support Libya gets for this legitimate self-defense is also a legitimate act consistent with international law and the principles of the UN Charter. Libya has every right to call for support from any quarter to repulse the U.S. aggression in self-defense.

If U.S. rulers think their eruption of the situation near the Libyan shores could divert the attention of the Arabs, especially Syria, from the aggressive plans being prepared in Israel against Syria and the Arab steadfast forces, which are determined to liberate the occupied Arab territories and to regain the usurped Arab rights, then they are deluding themselves. What is taking place in Israel is being watched closely and will be faced with the appropriate means and measures. There will be no Arab surrender to Israel and no Arab acceptance of subservience to the United States. One of the facts that emerged from the U.S. aggression against Libya is that the United States has not obtained the support of a single Arab state. And, in any Israeli-U.S. aggression against any Arab state, the Arabs masses from the ocean to the gulf will stand as one against this aggression and the enemy. The very dear price which the United States pay would be its status in the Middle East and the world as well as its interests and cherished objectives in the region.

Those western states, especially Britain and the Netherlands, that back the U.S. aggression in the Mediterranean, claiming that it is related to the freedom of navigation, are in fact distorting the reality and the facts. Their support for this aggression will not help defuse the explosive situation created by the United States. We say the United States must stop its acts of aggression against Libya, terminate its aggressive, provocative maneuvers, and withdraw the flotilla it massed before matters deteriorate further and get out of control.

What the United States has planned and sought from its aggression is one of the impossibilities in our world. The United States will have to admit its defeat and withdraw from the region whether it likes it or not. The final say in this part of the world will only be for peoples who create history and plan geography.

TISHRIN: Washington Planned Action

JN270937 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0745 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus, 27 Mar (SANA) — The *TISHRIN* newspaper issued here today said that as before, the United States did not succeed in justifying its aggression against Libya, and that therefore, it is admitting its recklessness, thus, reflecting the lack of its sense of responsibility as a superpower. Under the headline "Washington Admits," *TISHRIN* said that the U.S. officials' have affirmed that the U.S. aggression against Libya was not mounted on the spur of the moment nor was it a reaction by Washington's militarists. It was implementation of a preplanned scheme.

The paper said that while the United States is trying to force the Arabs to cower and capitulate to its ally, Israel, the nationalist Arab forces, led by Syria, are concerned with confronting and defeating the U.S. attack and inflicting possible harm on the United States and its various interests in the region.

The paper noted that imperialism is pursuing peoples and striking them, using its most sophisticated conventional weapons to subjugate them. But the other aspect of the problem is that the forces of freedom in the world do not remain neutral in such cases. This is what the USSR noted when it affirmed that what is going on is a veritable war whose consequences cannot be predicted.

Concluding, *TISHRIN* said that if Washington wants to feel the pulse of the Arab-Soviet friendship, we say that all the progressive Arab forces insist on their alliance with the Soviet Union, which stands by Arab rights. The United States should perfectly understand that there is no compromise on this point.

Prime Minister Delivers Policy Statement

JN262127 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1756 GMT 26 Mar 86

["Text" of Syrian Government policy statement delivered by Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm to the People's Assembly on 26 March 1986]

[Text] Mr People's Assembly speaker, female and male members. Through the mutual and benevolent relationship between the legislative and executive authorities, words should be coupled with actual deeds and not be intended as a source of embellishment. This is because the words here speak for themselves in all objectivity so that we may tell the truth in presenting the executive authority's statement to the legislative authority. We leave it up to the legislative authority to frankly and clearly express its opinion on the government policy statement while aiming to review matters simply but truthfully, and to express things as they are or should be, not within the framework of desires and ambitions, but within the framework of facts and possibilities.

The most noble and glorious aspect of our constitutional norms in this mutual relationship is submitting our government policy plan to your esteemed assembly, to which we ensure and affirm our eagerness to make it objective because of our conviction and eagerness to ensure that the discussion of it will also be objective to formulate, deepen, and assess matters under existing and future circumstances. Thus, this honest, constructive discussion will enrich the statement, the subsequent plan, and the entire work of the legislative and executive authorities in the forthcoming phase. Here, with confidence and optimism, we submit our government policy statement as we embark on a new phase of work and production — a phase in which we want to achieve and insist on achieving the desire success. This is because we possess both the will and determination to achieve this success. No obstacle, difficulty, or great effort will prevent us from achieving this success so long as the homeland's internal and external circumstances demand that we exert efforts, exercise self-denial, and offer the dearest sacrifices. Be assured that we address you with the firm will of October, speak frankly to you, and together seek to approve what will achieve the important objectives which we charted and which have become firmly imprinted on the course of our life and have defined the political, economic, educational, and military outlines of our course. All this is abundant with a strong will to develop our strength and make available all our capabilities to achieve a more effective cooperation in all fields to achieve the sixth phase of the 5-year plan for economic and social development. We hope that we will accurately, decisively, and ethically implement this plan to benefit our country, people, and our nation.

At the beginning of this government policy statement, I would like to warmly congratulate your esteemed assembly, the new People's Assembly, speaker and members, on the people's confidence in you because you are worthy of it. I would also like to congratulate the previous assembly, speaker and members, for their sincere efforts to carry out their legislative work, which helped the government in its executive work. On this occasion, I would like to affirm extreme eagerness to ensure continuing firm cooperation between the two authorities and the development of this cooperation under our popular, democratic system, the directives of our great leader, the militant Hafiz al-Asad, and the objectives of our Progressive National Front. We also affirm the reinforcement of all this under the guidance of the principles of our great party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and the resolutions of its conferences.

I am greatly confident that these major established facts will increase, develop, and deepen in the forthcoming phase. Thus, the government will have fulfilled its promises and embodied its legitimate aspirations to carry out its mission and meet all of its responsibilities in cooperation, consultation, and dialogue with your esteemed assembly. We receive support from your assembly, whose supervision, monitoring, and judgment help us in shouldering our responsibilities and in exercising these responsibilities in all fields, not only in implmenting what is approved, but in exploring and excelling in deepening and reinforcing what is approved. This is because our life under socialism and progress, which is our motto and which needs to be implemented with extreme seriousness and firmness, demands that we serve the people because we are part of them, that we frankly tell them the facts and inform them of developments, and proudly appreciate the growing enlightenment of our masses and their supreme sense of resposnibility and complete awareness of our circumstances in which we receive from all our citizens understanding, support, loyalty, and struggle in the political, economic, and military fields. We also receive an overall response of constant work to overcome difficulties, achieve the development objectives, and guarantee the success of our desired aims.

Our people's steadfastness, the notable position we have attained on Arab and international levels, and the great changes we have accomplished permit us to evaluate the true size of our achievements, calculate the effective steps we have taken, and feel with satisfaction that we have covered major economic and political phases in building modern Syria — a state for confrontation, steadfastness, liberation, regaining of rights, and development, pursuing and carrying out its plans with hard work and sweat. This convinces us that the destiny of crucial issues in the region is no longer dependent on other people's will, claims, or arrogance.

The age of Israeli bragging of its superiority, U.S. domination, and fear of plots and political and economic pressure has gone for good because we have removed all these things and we will continue to remove them one after another [as heard]. All hostile plans will founder on the rock of our steadfastness, our people's unity, and our Arab nation's cohesion. In light of all the experiences Syria has gone through and surmounted proudly and honorably and preparations we have made to face all eventualities, and thanks to our strong steadfastness at home and abroad, we can truly say that we are standing on solid ground which cannot be shaken by storms from any direction. Our people who have been toughened by struggle stand proudly under the leadership of our president whose wisdom has been acknowledged by the world, even our foes. Therefore, we are convinced of our ability to confront, liberate, and repulse aggression from source.

Our course in the field of development during the past few years has been tough. However, we did not hesitate or give up. We continued to implement plans, face hardships, surmount obstacles, and make difficult decisions. This has given us confidence and wider knowledge of our resources and capabilities so we are now in a better position to determine the means of recitifying and guiding consumption and avoiding all that is harmful to our economy in the effort to build a sound, solid, and self-reliant economic base for our modern state.

To preserve our economic and social gains and to achieve our pan-Arab objectives, we must redouble our efforts so the society in this country will be a true progressive, socialist society. Our people should continue to work as usual under the historic leadership of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad on the basis of the guidelines contained in his speech during the opening session of this esteemed assembly and also in his splendid and wise speech on the 23d anniversary of the glorious 8 March revolution, especially his words which said: None of us solely owns the homeland or solely tackles its concerns and problems. All of us own the homeland and tackle together its concerns and problems.

The president also said: We have made accomplishments despite all obstacles. However, we are still facing many important tasks in all fields calling for continued hard work to build a strong economic base which can meet the people's requirements and defense needs and push the wheel of progress and development forward.

Mr Speaker, ladies and gentlemen, the government, while presenting to your esteemed assembly a brief statement containing the main outlines of its work program for the next phase, affirms that it will continue its policy stemming from leader al-Asad's instructions and Ba'th Party congresses, especially the 8th regional congress. Foremost among the government's objectives is that great, noble objective represented by continuing to build our brave armed forces, supplying them with all their requirements, and strengthening and improving their capability in fufillment of the slogan of achieving strategic parity with the Zionist enemy for the sake of liberating the occupied territory and regaining the usurped rights so that these forces, which have set the most splendid examples of heroism and sacrifice, will remain strong by their weapons, firm in their belief, and lofty in their proud, honorable stand, and so that these forces will also be a support for pan-Arab struggle, a shield for the Arab cause, and a defender of all the boundaries of the great Arab homeland.

To implement the plan of action included in the policy statement, the government is committed to attain its objectives in light of the basic principles of domestic and foreign policy.

In the field of domestic policy: The government's domestic policy is defined by a deep concern for implementing basic plans in three fields: the general infrastructure, the economy, and the services.

The government will be very firm in implementing these tasks. It will also be very firm in dealing with negligence and illegal gains as well as in controlling the situation so the good people will be rewarded and the bad people will be punished.

In the field of economic policy and services: Whenever we move toward the next stage after preparing a 5-year plan, we realize that the implementation of such a plan will not be easy in light of the circumstances that emerged at the beginning of the eighties. The achievement of the plan resulted in removing many obstacles in the path of economic and social development and in expanding production in industry and agriculture in addition to the big expansion in the services sector.

Naturally, the coming plan and the economic policy should stem from studying the current situation and the results of the previous plan to increase the positive achievements and avoid the negative trends through the best use of all resources and potential.

Therefore, the 6th 5-Year Plan will be prepared with a more comprehensive and realistic approach in which steps will be taken to link the general budget with the development and the qualitative plans within the framework of a more coordinated economic balance and within the framework of a basic and central objective to increase high-quality and less expensive products. This will be accompanied by distributing the gains to the greatest rumber of people.

Consequently, the next draft plan will be based on amending the structure of the national economy in the interest of the agricultural sector and on expanding the agricultural sector's role, as well as on strengthening the role of the public sector in this development, ecouraging the joint and private sectors, and integrating the tasks of the three sectors.

It is very important to explain that a continued and balanced economic and social development calls for building new production elements on a selective basis to develop projects that bring quick profits; distributing the products for export and local consumption while maintaining the concern for achieving more balance between general expenditures and local resources; and abandoning the present forms of consumption and putting them in harmony with the nature of our resources and our types of production. This is in addition to changing the structure of the labor force to achieve harmony between financial and human resources.

In the field of agriculture, our policy will continue to concentrate on developing this sector to achieve more sufficiency in our food needs and to provide a surplus for exports by improving the use of all available factors of production in this sector; by continuing to reclaim the lands, build dams and irrigation projects, improve water use, and maintain the soil base; by integrating the plant and animal sectors; by developing the Bedouin area to increase the income of peasants, develop their capabilities, encourage productive cooperative work, reinforce the resources of the agricultural cooperative bank; and by making agricultural pricing a factor encouraging production and its development.

We will also continue the process of agricultural mechanization and provide the machinery required to increase production and yields.

In the field of industry, we will continue to expand investments in this sector so it can support the agricultural sector, fulfill its needs, and industrialize its products. We will also concentrate on completing our study of the status of present industries and on finding radical solutions to the problems facing them. Meanwhile, we will concentrate on increasing production in conformity with the available production potential and on improving the specifications and quality of products. We will give more attention to training, raising efficiency, and improving the conditions for the administration of this in their factories. This will take place in parallel with preparing economic and technical studies needed to establish the following industries: industries which depend on local raw materials with a view to making the maximum benefit of our available resources to meet consumption needs and increasing export capability; the medical industries; and the agricultural industries. All this will fall within the framework of achieving integration among the various activities of the national economy in a manner supporting its production base.

In the field of oil and gas we will continue exploration and development of explored fields to expedite placing this wealth in the service of our national economy. We will develop our petrochemical and refining industries to achieve more integration and to increase their ability to meet our needs.

In the field of foreign trade, we will continue to encourage exportation, open new markets, and conclude trade agreements in a manner serving these aims. It is obvious that these accomplishments depend on the success we are seeking to achieve to improve and increase production. In the field of banking we will continue to implement the steps we adopted for turning this sector into a tool increasing our financial revenues and investing them in productive channels boosting our currency and financial potential.

All our policies will be based on achieving the objective sought from the required work. Accordingly, we will concentrate on increasing production as an objective for investment and on eliminating squandering, abuse, and irrational consumption as a way to preserve our revenues and wealth. We have actually started to adopt the necessary measures to rationalize power consumption and use alternative sources of power.

Perhaps the field in which we made major strides is that of improving the balance between expenditure and revenues in the state budget. We exerted great efforts this year to keep expenditures at the levels reached in 1985 while working to increase revenues according to our just socialist tax policy. Although we began the first year of the 6th 5-Year Plan only this year, most work related to this plan has been accomplished. Perhaps the most important overall trend contained in this plan is its concentration on increasing production and local products at averages which allow for increasing the individual income and improving consumption while developing the income structure toward investing in agricultural sectors, increasing savings, and improving the percentage of covering imports with the revenue of exports.

In our agricultural policy we will exert further efforts to provide more efficient economic development and better economic performance. We will continue to improve the environment supporting productive activities by creating incentives to undertake productive activities and by achieving further administrative productive development on the level of making and implementing decisions. Our economic action will also fall within the framework of attaining faith in Arab economic unity, bolstering Arab economic integration, increasing cohesion with socialist countries, and developing economic and trade relations with them.

The sector of mass, social, and personal services has enjoyed further government attention with a view to increasing the services rendered to the citizen and improving them in terms of quality and availability, in addition to providing similar services in terms of quantity and quality to the citizen in various provinces, to the citizen in cities and rural areas in the same province, and to the citizen in various suburbs of the same city.

Immense efforts have been exerted to implement and develop utility service projects such as hotels, telephones, and others. Many service projects have also been implemented in the various parts of the country. These projects have led to comprehensive expansion of services in education, culture, health, transportation, as well as road construction and in providing drinking water to towns and rural areas.

Based on these considerations, the services sector has realized a great rate of growth, something which had a positive effect on all citizens. The government will continue to develop the services through the 6th 5-Year Plan. We will pay special attention to using present services by employing the available human, mechanical, and technical resources to the greatest possible extent.

In the field of Arab policy:

On the Arab level, this country's pan-Arab stand of struggle will remain firm, stemming from our rights, the justice of our cause, and our conviction of victory in the fateful battle. All the pressures, plots, and aggressive threats to which we are exposed will never change our position — threats which our Zionist enemies are issuing with the backing and encouragement of the U.S. imperialism, which, together with the United States, form a strategic alliance directed against Syria and the Arab nation with the aim of terrorizing this nation, leading it to desperation, and imposing capitulation on it.

Syria has led the moves against retreat, defeatism, and cowering before threats and pressures. It is continuing on this correct, principled line. Syria will resist to the end the Camp David agreements, checked and contained by Syria. Subsequent events in Arab Egypt itself have proven that our heroic Arab people of Egypt are resisting the Camp David accords and are mounting violent, armed uprising against them. The Egyptian people are waging undaunted struggle in various forms to reject and foil all the Camp David policies, and force the Egyptian rulers to renounce them so Egypt will return to Arab ranks with all its power and resources and reoccupy its leading position in the pan-Arab struggle, adhering to the Arab nation's cause, which will not emerge victorious except by Arab cohesion and by the unity of Arab struggle and voice.

Stemming from this pan-Arab stand of struggle, we continue our endeavors to realize effective Arab solidarity on the basis of resisting imperialism and Zionism, liberating the land, regaining the rights, and enabling the Palestinian Arab people to build their independent Arab state on their naitonal soil. On this course also, we will strive to help the dear Lebanese people surmount their tribulation, stop bloodshed on their land, achieve national accord among their sons, and remove Israeli occupation from the remaining part of their territory to enable fraternal Lebanon to recover and achieve the unity of its territory and people.

We also firmly stand against the capitulation policies and projects to liquidate the Palestinian cause — policies which are being peddled and on which consultations are held to generalize them among the plotters.

Concerning the Iraq-Iran war, which the fascist Saddam regime ignited to remove Iraq from the equation of struggle against the Zionist enemy, it was meant to disturb the equation of the Arab-Israeli struggle, particularly because the war broke out following Egypt's removal from this equation as a result of the Camp David agreements. Therefore, this war is within the framework of the U.S.-Zionist plans for this region — plans which are aimed at removing Iraq, with all its immense material and military resources, from the basic front of confrontation with Israel, and the wide resources which the friendly Iranian Islamic revolution made available and which could have provided an important weight on the way to liberating the occupied Arab territory.

We firmly announce our stand of solidarity and complete support for the fraternal Libyan people in the face of the armed U.S. aggression against the Gulf of Sidra and the Libyan territorial waters. We strongly denounce the U.S. provocation and U.S. imperialism's crimes against fraternal Libya. We stand with all our capabilities alongside the Libyan people and Armed Forces in their struggle against U.S. piracy on the Libyan waters and territories.

In the field of foreign policy:

Our contemporary world is witnessing a violent, bitter struggle as well as an increasingly tense international situation. International relations are passing through an extremely complicated phase. All this requires our accurate study, continuous watch, and good understanding of the repercussions of this situation and their results in the political, military, economic, and other fields. Syria's policy in this respect is well-known. Syria is endeavoring to realize international detente, stop the arms race, and prevent the spreading of nuclear weapons. Our policy is based on backing the Nonaligned Movement, ridding the Third World of all forms of foreign trusteeship or domination, and forming a world front against Zionism, world imperialism, and racism in all its forms. Syria seeks to make cooperation between Islamic states a means of consolidating the Islamic world's resources against the Zionist and imperialist plots, supporting the Palestinian cause, struggling to promote the Arab causes, affirming and entrenching friendly relations and cooperation with the forces of peace and liberation in the world, particularly with the socialist states, led by the friendly USSR, by promoting this cooperation in order to face the U.S.-Zionist alliance and its conspiratorial projects and supporting the liberation movements in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Syria's policy is also based on monitoring and comprehending European events, increasing contacts with European states, peoples, and progressive forces to promote the stands of these states and peoples toward our Arab causes and to expose the dangers of the U.S. and Israeli aggressive policies to peace and security in the region.

Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlmen. By moving forward, time is of great importance in deciding success or failure. [sentence as heard] This is confirmed by all nations in this age as well as in all ages. Therefore, by choosing the path of freedom and dignity, the nation necessarily chooses the path of sacrifices, exhalting the meaning of sacrifice. The role and necessity of sacrifice become great when the nation is threatened or exposed to danger. In this country, we faced and continue to face an immense danger; namely, the expansionist, imperialist, and colonialist Zionist danger aimed at liquidating the Arab existence and wiping out the Arab nation to realize the Zionist dream of establishing a nation that extends from the Nile to the Euphrates. We also face the Zionist preparations, aggressions, and military and obilization efforts to realize this abhorent project. In view of this situation, our only choice is to continue work and efforts, sacrifices, as well as adherence to the instructions of our president, who said: We have triumphed over big challenges and we are yet to triumph over the biggest challenges most threatening to the destiny of the national and the homeland. To triumph over these threats, we must continue and step up the process of construction from the cultural, political, economic, social, and military standpoints in a manner that would lead to the emergence of an Arab homeland capable of facing the challenges regardless of their size and source. This is our course from which we will never deviate. This is our path, the path of construction and steadfastness. Let us all proceed, in cooperation and cohesion, realizing that with serious work and sincere cooperation, we will be able to build such a cherished homeland.

Finally, I thank you all for listening and for your interest. I hope that through this brief outline of our program, I have explained the plan of the next phase. Again I am sure that your discussion will enrich this program and that your recommendations will be an integral part of the government's policy. I pray God to grant us success in serving our nation's glory and strength. May God's blessings and peace be upon you.

Al-Shar' returns From Arab League Council Session

JN262100 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2015 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus this evening after leading the Syrian delegation to the Arab League Council's 85th session in Tunis 24-26 March.

Air Force Planes Attack Fatah Targets in Lebanon
TA271004 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Air Force planes have attacked two Fatah targets southeast of Sidon. The IDF spokesman reports that all our aircraft returned safely to their bases and the pilots reported good hits. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the aircraft attacked two bases that served as Fatah headquarters in the area of the Al-Miyah wa Miyah refugee camp and a training base south of the camp.

Further Details Reported
TA271139 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1110 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal — live]

[Text] Air Force planes attacked two Fatah targets southeast of Sidon and returned safely to their base. The pilots reported good hits. The headquarters of a Fatah battalion situated between the Al-Miyah wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camps, which included a structure and vehicles mounted with machineguns, was struck. Another target was a Fatah training structure with approximately 10 tents and other pieces of equipment. This place is located approximately 1 km south of the Al-Miyah wa Miyah camp.

It has meanwhile been reported from Lebanon that approximately 15 people were killed in the Air Force raids and many others were wounded.

Thus, less than 2 years after the IDF withdrawal from Sidon, nearly 1,000 terrorists from all the organizations have already returned to that place. The Fatah terrorists can be found primarily in the refugee camps themselves, while the terrorists belonging to other organizations, such as Al-Sa'iqah, Jibril, Abu Musa [Sa'd Musa Muragha], and others can be found just outside and around the regufee camps.

The Air Force had raided this area in late January, and that time it also bombed three targets belonging to Palestinian terrorist organizations. Recently terrorists have been spotted returning to Lebanon, and they are beginning to rebuild their network in the form of combat military units like those that were active there prior to the Lebanon war.

Peres: Raid Reprisal for Katyusha Attacks
TA271200 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1149 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says that Israel is taking all possible measures to prevent incidents like the katyusha firing at Qiryat Shemona this morning. The Air Force raid in Lebanon this morning is part of this campaign. At the same time, the prime minister emphasized that there is no intention to change the present defense policy.

Speaking to our Knesset correspondent Gil Ronen, Shim'on Peres said: Each time we learn about concentrations of terrorists or the terrorist organization's training camps and points of departure, we take the necessary preemptive measures.

IDF Conducting 'Large-Scale' Security Strip Searches
TA271218 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Four residents of Qiryat Shemona sustained slight injuries this morning when a katyusha rocket fell in a schoolyard. The victims, three students and a teacher, have already been sent home after receiving treatment. Large IDF units arrived at the site and began searches, while large-scale searches were simultaneously launched in the security strip.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the rocket was apparently fired from the area of Shaqra in the security strip, west of Qiryat Shemona.

Major General Ori Or praised the inhabitants of Qiryat Shemona for the restriant they had shown, and pointed out that life in the town returned to normal within an hour. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that studies in the school stopped for only a short while, after which they continued as scheduled.

Tabah Talks With Egypt Continue Amid Disagreements
TA261755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Report by Bassam Ja'bar from the Tel Aviv Sheraton Hotel — live]

[Text] The resumption of the talks between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations this evening on the arbitral compromis on Tabah and the bilateral relations was characterized by an atmosphere of differences of opinion on substantive issues between the two delegations. A source in the Israeli delegation told us that an intensive effort is now being made to bridge the gaps still existing between the positions of the two sides. The bone of contention at the core of the talks is the formulation of the question to be presented to the arbitrator.

This evening there was nobody who could tell us that progress was made in today's talks, that there is a rapprochement in the positions of the sides. At the same time, the spokesman of the Israeli delegation said that the talks are being held in a serious atmcshphere and that the two sides are investing a great deal of effort to overcome the disagreements. The Egyptians showed a firm approach today, asking that progress on the arbitral compromis issue not be tied to progress on bilateral relations. The Egyptian also asked that the negotiations between the two sides be finished soon.

'No Progress' in 27 Mar
TA271143 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1125 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Israeli-Egyptian talks on the formulation of the Tabah arbitral compromis and the promotion of bilateral normalization have begun at the Tel Aviv Sheraton Hotel. The latest meeting in this round of talks will be held this evening, and the delegations will meet again next week in Cairo. Our correspondent Bassam Jabir filed this report from the Sheraton Hotel:

The deliberations of the Israeli and Egyptian delegations on Tabah and bilateral issues opened this morning with a meeting between the two parties to discuss general topics. The deliberations later continued in two committees: The first dealt with negotiations on the formulation of the arbitral compromis, while the other continued to discuss bilateral relations.

At a certain stage, the view here was that the talks between the two delegations would adjourn for a week to allow the Inner Cabinet to hear the results of the talks thus far, but Ya'aqov Qeynan, spokesman for the Israeli delegation, informed us a short while ago that the talks will resume as early as next week.

[Begin Qeynan recording] The work of the two delegations continued this mroning both on the formulation of the arbitral compromis and on bilateral issues. The work will continue this afternoon, and next week in Cairo. [end recording]

Let us repeat once again that the talks will resume this afternoon, when another session of the two delegations will take place to continue the deliberations. Meanwhile, we have been informed that no progress has been made in today's talks.

Shamir on Ties With Egypt, Talks

TA261630 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1520 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Frankel] Mr Shamir, 7 years have passed since the peace treaty with Egypt has been signed, and this is a long period. The first question I wanted to ask you was whether there are any more question-marks hovering over the peace between Israel and Egypt, or whether there are no such question marks?

[Shamir] There are no question-marks regarding the existence of the peace, the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. However, in the framework of bilateral relations there are still many issues which must be clarified, examined, improved and developed. What we do have is a state of non-belligerence. This is important in the Middle East, and we do not underestimate it. However, we expected to have full peace.

[Frankel] Are we not asking the Egyptians for more than they can deliver? For example, we have recently renewed [as heard] our relations with Spain, and this was done almost secretly. The Spaniards have also opened a PLO office in Madrid, and it seems that we do not criticize Spain as much as we do Egypt regarding issues which appear much more trivial?

[Shamir] There is no similarity here. Having peace between us and any other country does not rule out the existence of controversy, and we have differences of opinion in various issues with almost all the countries with which we maintain normal, peaceful relations. Our problems with Egypt are much more serious: For example, we have no problems with Spain regarding tourism, trade, and other basic issues. One can read daily articles in the Spanish press which are extremely pro-Israeli. These things do not exist in Egypt, despite the fact that 7 years have passed.

[Frankel] Some people say that due to the internal situation in Egypt, specifically the problems facing President Mubarak, Egypt cannot form truly close relations with Israel. Do you accept this assessment?

[Shamir] I cannot accept it, because this will always be a problem Israel will face with any Arab country. Any Arab country which will make peace with Israel in the future will have to overcome the resistance of various internal elements to the peace with Israel, and if we accept the fact that the government making peace with us is surrendering to those who oppose the peace we will never reach true peace. I must say that recently we have witnessed a certain change in the Egyptian media, this following the murder of the Israeli Embassy worker in Egypt. This time the media has behaved differently then it had previously, despite the fact that the internal situation in Egypt is difficult. Therefore it is possible to say that we can and should demand and act for strengthening the peace.

[Frankel] Are you saying that the recent riots in Egypt have had no negative influence on bilateral relations?

[Shamir] I do not think so, because nobody said that one of the motives of the rioters was Israel and the peace with Israel. Only the Syrian president made this connection for his own purposes. Within Egypt, however, there was nobody who said that Israel and relations with it had anything to do with those events.

[Frankel] To end this interview, perhaps you can update us on the negotiations between Israel and Egypt over the Tabah arbitration and improving bilateral relations?

[Shamir] The talks are going on. Even today there are talks in Herzliyya. Unfortunately, we have made no progress until today due to the tough stand of the Egyptian representatives. Israel has shown great willingness to meet the Egyptian requests halfway, something which cannot be said for the Egyptian representatives, and I think that due to this fact these negotiations have not born positive results so far.

[Frankel] Is there any sense in continuing them, or will we have to take decisions at the political echelon in the near future?

[Shamir] I think we should continue the negotiations, because I do not see in what way the decisions of the political echelon can help here. We must exhaust these negotiations and make the most out of them. The political echelon has already expressed its opinion and set a series of conditions which it believes would allow settling our differences with Egypt. The decision of the Inner Cabinet was taken following an exchange of letters and words with the leaders of Egypt, and therefore I think that now we must await the results of the negotiations, and not look toward the political echelon.

Egypt's Ghali Interviewed

TA261735 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1530 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Report on interview with Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, by Arab affairs correspondent Eldad Beck; in Cairo, date not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Beck] Today, 7 years after the signing of the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt, I asked Dr Butrus Ghali, whether the existing peace is the peace which Egypt hoped for when the treaty was signed. His answer was negative: This is not the peace we hoped for, because as is well known, we signed at the time two agreements, one regarding the return of the Sinai, and the other dealing with the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. According to this latter agreement there should have been autonomy in the territorries, the IDF should have withdrawn from these territories, and there should have been a beginning of new relations between the territories and Israel:

[Ghali — in English] We have been successful in the first part of the treaty, and we have not been successful in the second part of the treaty. There are many reasons for this failure, but the failure is there.

[Beck] Ghali says the target of Egypt, which is comprehensive peace in the region, has not changed. There can be no true peace unless we achieve a comprehensive peace, and this is impossible unless we recognize the right to self-determination of the Palestinians living in the territories. The Egyptian minister emphasized that Egypt's purpose is to continue negotiating and to overcome the obstacles coming from both the Israeli, the Egyptian, and the Arab sides. He said we must continue to talk with each other and preserve the dialogue. Despite the difficulties Ghali expresses optimism, because he believes there is a true will for peace, both in Israel and in Egypt, a desire which is important for bringing about the comprehensive peace which is the target of Egyptian diplomacy:

[Ghali — in English] We are interested in peace-building and not in peace-keeping; we are interested in the institutionalization of peace, so it will be a new page, but there are many other pages which are even more important than this page.

[Beck] Ghali said the important thing is not to achieve a fragile peace, but rather a comprehensive peace. Ghali admits that Tabah constitutes for the Egyptians a very important element, but this is only one of many elements. In other words, we in Egypt seek a comprehensive peace. Ghali says that in order to make this possible, Egypt is currently working to bring about a rapprochement between Jordan and the PLO because for the last 8 years Egypt has been trying to encourage a Jordanian-PLO dialogue. Ghali says that Egypt believes that greater cooperation between the two is very important for bringing about peace. Ghali stressed the importance of taking into consideration the standard of living of the Palestinians in the territories. He says there is a deterioration in the situation of the Palestinians following the signing of the peace treaty, and this constitutes an obstacle on the way to peace. Therefore the Israeli Government must make efforts for improving the standard of living of the Palestinians. Ghali explains that to date we have seen little action in that direction. We are looking for building the Palestinians' trust by way of giving them political freedom, by considering them as people who are entitled to their own homeland and institutions.

Regarding Israeli-Egyptian relations, I asked Ghali how Egypt views the normalization process. Ghali answers that Egypt had done its best to achieve normalization until the Israeli invasion into Lebanon, which was a violent blow to the peace process and a great obstacle to normalization. Now, however, we must look toward the future. Egypt's position, according to Ghali, is that there must be more contacts, and a closer dialogue. Peace between Israel and Egypt was only a first step which must be followed by similar agreements between Israel and the other Arab states. We are still at the beginning of a very long road, and we need patience, political resourcefulness, and most of all generosity on both sides.

Further Reportage on Reaction to U.S.-Libya Conflict

Peres Hopes for Al-Qadhdhafi Downfall

TA261830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says the American military action against Libya could lead to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's downfall. The prime minister was speaking in Jerusalem tonight. Steve Weizman reports:

[Begin recording][Weizman] Peres said Libya has until now gone unchallenged. Al-Qadhdhafi's incursions into Chad and the Sudan, as well as his support for international terrorism, have met worldwide with only occasional verbal response. According to Peres, the American action in the Gulf of Sidra is an important move which, he hopes, will lead to the Libyan leader's downfall.

[Peres] I think by not trying to stop him you make him a hero; by trying to stop him, what he has described as the line of death, may be his own line, may be his own line. [as heard]

[Weizman] Peres went on to say the Mediterranean is a small sea, and if every country in the region decides unilaterally to extend its territorial waters, the historic freedom of navigation in the area will be at an end. He applauded the American moves as a step towards keeping the Mediterranean open. [end recording]

Calls Action 'Timely, Wise, Responsible'

TA270530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Here in Jerusalem, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has applauded the U.S. operation against Libya as timely, wise, and responsible. In a speech to a gathering of Histadrut supporters from abroad, the prime minister expressed the hope that the American strike against Libya would bring about the downfall of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

[Begin Peres recording] I think the movement, the exercise of the American Navy in the international waters not far from Libya is a timely, wise, and responsible decision. [applause] I am listening occasionally with disbelief to some of our commentators. They say now what Al-Qadhdhafi will do he will terrorize the world. Well, let's cut back in his human size. To terrorize the world is quite an undertaking, you know; it's not a simple matter. There are 3 million Libyans, and they did their very best to terrorize the world before the exercise of the American Navy. They really tried to do it, everything they could have done, enjoying one freedom: They were free from defending their own country. They thought they can do elsewhere whatever they want. What he has described as the line of death maybe is his own line. [end recording]

Eban: Operation Enhances U.S. Image

TA261147 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 26 Mar 86 p 2

[Report by Rami Roholtz]

[Text] Commenting on recent events in the Gulf of Sidra, Knesset Member Abba Eban, chairman of the Knesset foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, said: The operation is 100 percent American; therefore Al-Qadhdhafi will most likely seek a way to take action against the United States. He can do little against Israel because we are outside the range within which he could hit us. Nonetheless, he may opt to run riot against U.S. or Israeli installations in Europe. The U.S.-Israeli goal should be to depict him as a pirate.

It is in Israel's interest that the United States be seen as it is now, namely as being firm — in contrast to its image after Beirut. The Beirut fiasco also affected Israel.

The U.S. position in the face of the Libyan attempt to blockade an international waterway justifies, in retrospect, the position Israel took in 1967, when Egypt blockaded the Tiran Strait.

Papers on Confrontation

TA260948 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 26 Mar 86

[From the review of the midday press editorials]

[Text] *MA'ARIV* and *HADASHOT* write about the confrontation between Libya and the United States. *MA'ARIV*, under the headline "Hoorah for the United States," says that despite support for the U.S. action, Washington and Jerusalem must know that a terrorist act against innocent and unprotected people will come in its wake. We must be prepared and cautious, and know that there may be a heavy and tragic price to pay. The problem can only be solved if Al-Qadhdhafi is removed from his position as leader of Libya.

HADASHOT writes that as far as Al-Qadhdhafi is concerned, Israel and the United States are one target. If Libya carries out its threats, the United States will have to prove that its position on the need for a harsh response to terrorism is valid not only in the Gulf of Sidra, but also in protecting Israel and its citizens.

DAVAR Urges Further U.S. Action

TA261420 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 26 Mar 86 p 7

[Commentary by Hagay Eshed: "Strengthening the Power of Deterrence"]

[Text] The force the United States has applied against Libya is no charade, even though it is aimed at Libyan strongman Mu'ammar al-Qadhdfahf with his clownish airs. It was long in coming, and will have both military and political sequels. It is not over yet.

What happened was practically inevitable, and followed a preset scenario. The Americans amassed large naval and air forces; the Libyan president threatened action against them if they crossed the "Line of Death" he had arbitrarily drawn on the map of the Mediterranean; the United States warned that it would react to any provocation by the Libyan president; and each side played its part exactly according to the script. All we have to do now is wait for the results.

One may hope for the best, but must also prepare for the worst in the form of Libyan terrorist acts against U.S. targets — and while at it, also at Israeli and Jewish targets — all over the globe, including aircraft and vessels in the Mediterranean. The Libyan president will do everything in his power to make good on his threats. All we can do now is take all the precautionary and preemptive measures we can, and also prepare for graver acts of retaliation and punishment for possible Libyan attacks.

All the complications and dangers notwithstanding, this operation had long been called for. Libya has made itself the spearhead of terrorism and murder, the center of provocation in almost every conceivable direction, the headquarters for terrorism in Europe and the Middle East, and the coordinator of subversive activity and military expansion in the African arena — first in Chad, now in the Sudan, and continuously against Egypt. It was impossible to evade the need to put reins on Libya and strengthen the U.S. deterrent force in the Mediterranean and African arena.

That deterrent force had suffered a severe blow in the shameful retreat from Lebanon. It is true that since then people have come to realize that there are no winners in Lebanon, only defeated sides. Even Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who enjoys an advantage on the Lebanese front that no one else does, cannot be regarded as a winner in that arena. On the contrary, in Lebanon he exposes his failure and weakness. If one regards the acts of terror in Damascus itself as a precursor of future events, one can only say that Al-Asad has "imported" the "Lebanese malaise" to Syria.

And yet Syria's woes cannot be viewed as a source of consolation for the United States (or Israel). The U.S. (and Israeli) deterrent capability in Lebanon has weakened, turning Libya into the most suitable arena to strengthen that deterrence against any harm to security and peace, and against any provocation against U.S. prestige and status in the Middle East.

Although there is no guarantee that the U.S. President will henceforth be free to employ force in similar cases, and although one must still wait for the reaction of the U.S. public and Congress, which are generally reluctant to deal with force, even an active uncertainty is enough to serve as a deterrent. The Libyan president, the Syrian president, and the new leader of the Soviet Union must all bear in mind that the U.S. President not only talks, but also acts. They cannot indulge in believing that he will not act again in the face of similar provocation in the Mediterranean. This is not the final word.

The war against terrorism must continue with all the measures that have been employed this far, but they should be complemented by yet another dimension, that of a direct U.S. military operation against Libya. Such an operation would have to be viewed as an act of warning and deterrence not only vis-a-vis Libya, but also vis-a-vis Syria and, indirectly, the Soviet Union, which might become involved in any large-scale military operation involving Libya and Syria, with which the Soviet Union has defense and military supply pacts, and toward which it is committed to activate an "airlift" in case of emergency.

If the United States follows this trend of strengthening its power of deterrence, Israel will also benefit, primarily regarding the Syrian threat. From now on President al-Asad will have to exercise greater caution in planning his military moves in the area. But all this depends on whether Congress and the American people are frightened by President Reagan's decision, as they have been in several such cases in the past, and do not delude themselves that this one-time event is sufficient. The war against terrorism and subversion, for which Libya is a primary base, must continue. Israel and its friends in the United States must congratulate the U.S. President for the operation he launched in the Gulf of Sidra and hope that these actions will continue as long as the Libyans persist in their acts of provocation. This will help strengthen the U.S. deterrent force against threats to peace and security in the Middle East from whatever party.

IDF Initiates Public Call-Up Exercise

TA261525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The IDF General Staff is announcing that the public call-up exercise is being held now. Following is the formulation of the decree issued by the deputy chief of staff and the head of the IDF Operations Branch:

Reservists, the codewords of whose reserve units will be specified below, are called upon to report to reserve service immediately, at the place of which they have been notified in advance. Owners of equipment, including vehicles that are used in the units, whose codewords will be detailed below, are called upon to put this equipment immediately at the disposal of the Army at the place of which they have been notified in advance. Following are the codewords of the units called for the exercise: Berekhat Hashiloah [Siloam Pool]; Gag Gavoha [High Roof]; The Noon Circle [Hug Hatzohorayim]; Ketiva Misradit [Office Writing]; Mavo Lamiqra [Introduction to the Bible]; Nahala Vanahal [Property and Spring].

The above order is signed by Major General Dan Shomron, the deputy chief of staff and the head of the Operations Branch, by virtue of his authority as commander in accordance with the Law of Security Service 1959, combined version, in accordance with Clause 26 of the law, and by virtue of his authority as commander in accordance with the Codes for Emergency Times, Registration of Equipment and its Mobilization, of 1956, in accordance with Code 6, and in view of the public call-up exercise currently underway. [announcer repeats the entire order]

Reserve soldier, please note that if you own equipment summoned for duty according to this order and you yourself are called up, first bring the equipment or vehicle to its slated place and later report to your unit. If you are a commander whose job is to call up reservists, get to the regular meeting place immediately, contact your unit, and make preparations to absorb the other reservists. The reservists who are called up for the exercise are asked to use the transportation system which will be operated from the meeting places and to refrain from using their private vehicles.

Exercise Ends 27 March

TA270516 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The public call-up exercise for reservists to report to their bases ended early this morning. The IDF spokesman reports that the exercise was highly successful. The soldiers' response in reporting to their bases was quick and participation was very high. Lessons learned from previous call-up exercises were implemented in this exercise.

No Connection to U.S.-Libya Tension

TA270746 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0605 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi says that the latest events involving the United States and Libya have no direct significance for our region and are not linked to the IDF call-up exercise. He added that he does not believe other countries in the world would launch a campaign against terrorism showing the same kind of determination as the United States. Chief of Staff Levi was interviewed last night by our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz:

[Begin recording] [Levi] I can say that the United States appears to have taken the kind of action we have always been demanding — namely, that terror be fiercely and constantly fought against. Perhaps it is dealing with a slightly different type of terrorism: not terrorism by organizations or certain groups, but by a state. I believe that if more countries had been convinced that this is the way to deal with terrorism of any kind, we — that is, the entire world — would have suffered a lot less from terrorism.

[Horowitz] How great is the danger that this tension between the United States and Libya will also affect our region?

[Levi] I see no direct connection between these two things. Obviously, one of the threats that is regularly raised following antiterror operations is that of intensifying and prompting further terrorism. But my experience of many years has shown me that terrorism constantly does what it can, and if you combat it, it will untimately be less successful.

[Horowitz] Do you think this U.S. move will significantly encourage additional countries to fight against Libyan terrorism or international terrorism in general?

[Levi] Unfortunately I cannot say that this move will spur the whole world to operate a determined campaign against We can see other countries which suffer from terrorism humiliating themselves by letting their people get hurt. I am not convinced that they will show enough courage to take similar action to fight against terrorism, although this action could help. I would like to think that it will. [End recording]

Katyusha Rockets Land in Qiryat Shemona 27 Mar

4 Residents Wounded

TA271005 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Four residents of Qiryat Shemona sustained slight injuries from katyushas this morning. They received medical treatment, after which they were discharged. This is reported by the IDF spokesman.

Fired From North of Security Strip

TA271057 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1052 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The katyushas that fell on Qiryat Shemona today were fired from an area north of the security strip. This is reported by defense establishment sources to our military correspondent Gay Zohar. An extremist Shi'ite organization, such as Hizballah, or a Palestinian rejectionist organization seem to be responsible for the shooting. The katyushas were fired from an area which is supposedly under the control of the Shi'ite Amal organization, and a UNIFIL Irish contingent is deployed there.

Shamir Pledges To End Attacks

TA271031 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1023 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reacted to the katyusha firing in Qiryat Shemona by saying that the IDF and Israel will do everything to put an end to these attacks before they increase. Israel has the means to prevent such incidents from recurring. Minister Shamir said that we have heard that these incidents are being carried out by what is called the national resistance movement, but that movement would be well advised to fight against the cruel Syrian takeover of Lebanon rather than against Israel. We must stop it, said Foreign Minister Shamir.

Gen Or Sees No Policy Change

TA271116 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1050 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Interview with Major General Ori Or, the commander of the Northern Command, by correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz at the site of the katyusha attack in Qiryat Shemona on 27 March — recorded]

[Text] [Horowitz] The question one automatically asks this morning, Mr Commander, is whether this is another isolated katyusha firing incident or, seeing that this is the second time katyushas have landed in this area this week, an indication of a policy beyond an isolated firing incident?

[Or] I do not believe this indicates a change in policy, but only time will tell. If this is a change in policy, then our policy will likewise change. But let us wait and see. Let us not call it a change in policy before we are convinced that there has been a change.

[Horowitz] It had previously been claimed that Amal was making efforts to stop katyusha firings. Is this statement still correct today?

[Or] I cannot tell you with certainty who is responsible for the katyusha firing: Amal, or Hizballah, or the Palestinians. There are enough bodies who would like to fire katyushas. Therefore, right now, I cannot tell whether Amal is continuing to prevent such incidents or whether it was responsible for the shooting. It could have been Palestinian or Hizballah elements. I assume that within the next few hours or days we will find out who fired the katyushas.

[Horowitz] May I ask whether the reaction will be the usual reaction that we have seen to date, or are there any plans or ideas on ways to prevent even individual cases of katyusha firing?

[Or] There are ideas, but as for plans — I would definitely not tell you about them here, on the radio. I think people know that everything is being done to prevent the firing of katyushas even on a sporadic basis. We will simply become wiser with time.

Three Golan Druze Local Council Heads Replaced

TA270715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Three of the four heads of the Druze local councils on the Golan have recently been replaced by order of the Interior Ministry. The residents, supporters of Syria, maintain that this marks another stage in the implementation of the tough policy they have been subjected to since the prime minister's visit. The Interior Ministry, on the other hand, claims that this is a routine move aimed at improving the municipal services. Here are some additional details from our correspondent Yo'el Dar:

[Begin recording] [Dar] Unlike previous occasions such as this, no ceremony or party was held in the villages of 'Ayn Qiniya, Buq'ata, and Majdal Shams to mark the appointment of the new local council heads. Each one of them was summoned to the Interior Ministry offices to be informed of the position he had been appointed to fulfill after his predecessor had duly submitted a letter of resignation.

The residents claim that the new officials are more acceptable to the authorities, and that this is part of the heavy-handed policy which was launched shortly after the prime minister's visit to their villages.

Not so, maintains the Interior Ministry commissioner of the Northern District. The outgoing officials had nothing more to contribute than it is good to infuse new blood. Hinting at the fact that no high-ranking official had consulted him about the prime minister's visit to Majdal Shams, which ended in stromy demonstrations, Yisra'el Kenig said:

[Kenig] I do not know what a new policy means; I know nothing about a new policy and have never heard of such a thing being established. Perhaps this is one of the outcomes of the lack of coordination between the various administration bodies operating in these areas. What I do know is that we — and myself specifically — did act in coordination with other elements, and I believe the results speak for themselves.

[Dar] We persisted and asked: Why were the local council heads removed? After all, neither they nor their predecessors were in the habit of chanting the national anthem every morning. So why did this move pass quietly?

[Kenig] That is because the residents — both the council heads and the council members — were told that the purpose of this move is substantive and unrelated to other issues which Israel's enemies or others have been trying to link to every move. They were convinced that these moves are aimed at improving the municipal services and providing good services for each and every individual. There is no ulterior motive.

[Dar] The only official who was not removed from office is Muhsin Abu Salah, head of the Mas'adah local council and a Herut Movement member who has been doing what so many others have failed to do: cooperate with the interior minister for the sake of what he calls the villagers and my fellow Druze, irrespective of the price I have to pay for it. [End recording]

Students Throw Stones, Demonstrate in Bethlehem

TA261221 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Bethlehem University students today began throwing stones at Israeli vehicles near the university and at the main entrance to the town. The students also demonstrated on campus against the Israeli-Egyptian peace accords, and on the occasion of Land Day. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the IDF set up roadblocks at the entrances to the university.

Contacts Reportedly Under Way To Buy Oil From Nigeria

TA261058 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
26 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by Yehuda Sharoni]

[Excerpt] Israel is considering purchasing oil from Nigeria, which is a member of OPEC, despite the fact that Nigeria does not have diplomatic ties with Israel. This was learned from official sources. Avraham Agmon, director general of the Delek Fuel Company, recently visited Nigeria following Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche's visit there several weeks ago, during which he held talks concerning the possibility of resuming bilateral diplomatic ties.

It appears that Israel will make the purchase of oil conditional on the resumption of diplomatic ties.

Avishay Amir, Energy and Infrastructure Ministry spokesman, said in reaction that the Energy and Infrastructure Ministry is not in the habit of giving details on its various contacts to purchase oil.

The decrease in the price of oil on the world market improves Israel's room for maneuvering in purchasing oil. Israel meets two thirds of its oil needs with purchases from Mexico, Egypt, and Norway, and the rest with "spot" purchases. In recent years Israel has held contacts to purchase oil from other countries, including Venezuela.

LIBYA

Communique Released at End of Brahimi Visit

LD251007 Algiers APS in English 1002 GMT 24 Mar 86

(Text) Tripoli, 24/03/86 (APS) -- At the end of the official visit paid by Mr. Abdelhamid Brahimi, member of the Politburo, prime minister at the head of an Algerian governmental delegation in the Arab Jamahiriyah of Libya a press communique was released.

During his intervention at the opening of the meeting, Commander 'Abd Ahmad Jallud recalled the objectives that the political leaderships of the two countries want to achieve, in this case the union as a prelude to the unity of the Arab Maghreb and the Arab nation one. He recalled in this regard the historical civilizational, geographical sectors and the militantism linking the two brother peoples.

Mr. Jallud also dealt with all the questions of common interest. Concerning these latters, the two sides expressed their satisfaction before the convergence of their analyses and points of views. They decided besides to increase programmes and projects in order to meet the aspirations of the two peoples progress. The two sides examined all the accords and proceedings they signed as they finally proceed to the (?signature) of a cooperation agreement.

Further Reaction to U.S. Maneuvers in Gulf of Sidra

Al-Jumayyil Pledges Support

LD261615 Tripoli JANA in English 1440 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 15, March 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Lebanese president, Amin al-Jumayyil, has made a telephone call with the leader enquiring about the development of the situation, stressing that the Lebanese people stands firmly by its brotherly people of the Jamahiriyah in confronting U.S. aggression. He adds that the Lebanese people place all its capabilities at the disposal of its brotherly Libyan Arab people, lauding the courageous stand of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution and the people of the Jamahiriyah in facing up to U.S. aggression.

BBC Cited on U.S. 'Aggression'

LD261234 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1125 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] London, 26 Mar (JANA) — The BBC has quoted senior officials at the U.S. Ministry of War as saying that the United States planned its aggression against Libyan territory 2 months ago. In a news report this morning about the armed American aggression against the Gulf of Sidra, the BBC pointed out that U.S. aircraft were spying on Libyan missile bases during the few past weeks.

In its report, the BBC pointed out the angry demonstrations that have been staged all over Libyan cities in protest against the American aggression and which are a declaration of the challenge of the Libyan Arab people to the hostile American campaigns that are aimed at the Libyan Arab waters, land, and skies. The BBC also expressed a big interest over the declaration of the brother leader to JANA in which he affirmed the continuation of brave Libyan steadfastness and his affirmation that the Jamahiriyah is not only defending itself at this moment but defending the Arab nation and its future.

Iran's Khamene'i Pledges Support

LD262155 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2011 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received a telegram from Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in which he stresses that the American aggression against the Arab Libyan people is a continuation of America's evil acts against the peoples struggling for their freedom.

The firm measure taken by the SPLAJ to defend its land is a source of pride cherished by Muslims worldwide, and is also a test for the Libyan Arab people that should consider this as one of its sources of pride in the struggle against American imperialism. This aggression, he further says, constitutes also a test for the Arab and Islamic countries that claim to defend pan-Arabism and the Arab lands.

President Khamene'i says in his telegram that Iran firmly stands on the side of the Libyan Arab people in its confrontation with the American aggression.

Salim Salih Pledges PDRY Support

LD261642 Tripoli JANA in English 1442 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 15, March 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Mr. Salim Salih, assistant secretary of the ruling Socialist Party in Democratic People's Yemen has this morning telephoned Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, stressing that his country places all its capabilities at the disposal of the Libyan Arab people to courageously confront U.S. aggression, for, he adds, the people of Al-Jamahiriyah in this confrontation are defending the integrity and pride of the Arab nation.

Lauding the people of Al-Jamahiriyah, Mr. Salim Salih says that the people of Yemen have taken to the streets in protest over this U.S. aggression. He continues that the leadership in Yemen is holding a meeting to evaluate the present situation and continue consultations.

PDRY Condemns U.S. 'Aggression'

LD261838 Tripoli JANA in English 1746 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajabij, Mar 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Foreign Ministry of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) issued a statement strongly condemning the U.S. imperialist aggression on the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The statement said that the brave confrontation of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces with U.S. imperialism is a legitimate defence of the Libyan Arab soil. It confirmed that these aggressive actions have grave consequences upon the situations in the Mediterranean region.

The statement indicated that these acts expose the nature of the hostile U.S. policy towards the Arab nation and the peace-loving nations. Once [words indistinct] the standing and solidarity of PDRY with the people of Jamahiriyah in its brave [words indistinct] the U.S. military aggression.

YSP's Al-Bayd Voices Support

LD270918 Tripoli JANA in English 0813 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 16, Mars.27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — 'Ali Salim al-Bayd, the general secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) established a telephone contact with the leader of the revolution yesterday enquiring about the developments in the current situation.

YSP's secretary general confirmed the putting of all the capabilities of PDRY's people at the disposal of Jamahiriya in its brave confrontation with U.S. aggression. He highly praised the heroic brave stance of the Great Al-Fateh Revolution and its masses in confronting the American aggression.

Palestinians Await Al-Qadhdhafi 'Commands'

LD270333 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0157 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Message from unidentified spokesman of the Palestinian Liberation Front — Interim Command in the Jamahiriyah — live or recorded]

[Text] To Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great 1 September Revolution and secretary of the Pan-Arab Command:

We, in the Palestinian Liberation Front — The Interim Command in the Jamahiriyah — not only denounce and condemn the U.S. aggression against the Jamahiriyah and its people and revolutionary leadership, but also are at the forefront of those who defend it and fight for every grain of sand and drop of water in the Gulf of Sidra and all the land of the Jamahiriyah, which is the homeland of all the Arabs and revolutionaries throughout the world.

We believe this battle is not the Jamahiriyah's alone, but is a battle to defend all Arabs, from the ocean to the Gulf, against U.S. aggression and international imperialism, which attempts to violate this nation's honor and dignity. This nation is absolutely ready to teach the invaders an unforgettable lesson. The land of the Jamahiriyah will be a cemetery for all the aggressors and enemies.

The struggling peoples always will be victorious, and we are awaiting your commands.

S. Italy Residents Concerned

LD270901 Tripoli JANA in English 0800 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Rome, Rajab 16, Mars.27, JAMAHIRIYA NEWS AGENCY — The majors of both Palermo and Naples cities of southern Italy issued a statement declaring the anxiousness of the two cities' citizens to keep the Mediterranean Sea basin a region of security and peace. In their statement they called for the seizure of any military action in the Mediterranean basin to preserve the safety of its citizens. [sentence as received] They sent a letter in this respect to both the Italian Cabinet and Foreign Ministry.

Sudanese in Surt Condemn U.S. Acts

LD270209 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2313 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Message from spokesman of the Sudanese Revolutionary Committee in Surt — live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Brother leader and revolutionary teacher, Mu'ammar:

The Sudanese revolutionary force in Surt strongly condemns the despicable U.S. aggression against our sacred land, and renounces this naval piracy which [words indistinct]. This indicates that the Americans are continuing their injustice [words indistinct]. The aggressors must be punished. God's hands are supporting the hands of the united people.

March forward; we are with you in the same trench until we defeat the aggressors. Al-Fatih forever. The revolutionary struggle continues.

Masses 'Must Ignite Strong Fire'

LD270731 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0040 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The conflicting statements of the U.S. black house [White House] preceeded [words indistinct] the American people the U.S. imperialist aggression's true aims against the Libyan Arab people and the Arab nation.

The black house claimed that the U.S. military pieces stationed in the Mediterranean off the Libyan Arab shores and in the Arab Gulf of Sidra are engaged in maneuvers falling within the framework of regular U.S. military training, and that these maneuvers will continue until the beginning of April, while the U.S. war ministry [U.S. Defense Department] stressed that the U.S. military maneuvers will continue in the Libyan Arab Gulf of Sidra until the U.S. naval ships conclude their military commissions.

The U.S. war minister's [Secretary of Defense] statement exposes the aggressive intentions and aims and the terrorist missions entrusted to the U.S. Navy and Air Force against the Libyan Arab people and the Arab nation. The U.S. Administration's claim that the U.S. Navy aircraft and ships' aggression against the Libyan Arab Gulf of Sidra is, as they asserted, an act of self-defense, are refuted in view of the fact that the United States has held three military maneuvers opposite the Libyan Arab shores in the Gulf of Sidra in the first 3 months of this year. In the most recent maneuvers, a new aircraft carrier joined the two aircraft carriers that had participated in the preceeding military maneuvers, which were strongly opposed by the peoples of the world, even by U.S. allies in Western Europe. [word indistinct] the Libyan Arab people announced their rejection of the U.S. military maneuvers opposite their shores, and stressed their readiness to [words indistinct].

The people's congresses and international congresses, from all the countries of the world, expressed their readiness to become suicide squads to strike at U.S. interests and to destroy the ships of the Navy [words indistinct].

The United States should have obeyed the international will and withdrawn from the Libyan Arab Gulf of Sidra, which the Jamahiriyah declared to be Libyan Arab Gulf in 1973. The Jamahiriyah warned against the consequences of entering the gulf and crossing the Line of Death, which determines the borderline between the Jamahiriyah's territorial waters and international waters.

But U.S. imperialism, which is extremely hostile to the Arab nation and the Libyan Arab people, insisted on carrying out its military maneuvers for the third time in the Gulf of Sidra during the first quarter of this year. It declared its aggressive intentions against the Libyan Arab people and the Arab nation by this action.

We would like to emphasize here that the U.S. aggression was not committed at the spur of the moment, and was not, contrary to the U.S. administration's claims, in self-defence. Rather, the U.S. Administration pushed forward three aircraft carriers, carrying more than 250 military aircraft, and pushed forward roughly 50 military vessels into the Gulf of Sidra in a provocative and terrorist demonstration against the Libyan Arab people and the Arab nation. This also is a challenge to the peoples of the world and a violation of international laws and conventions.

U.S. imperialism's decision to order this huge mass of military vessels to the Gulf of Sidra is viewed as a hostile action and blatant aggression against the Libyan Arab people and the Arab nation, and refutes the U.S. claims that its aggression against the Libyan Arab people was in self-defense. Naturally, the Libyan Arab people, together with the free men of the Arab nation, rushed to defend the Arab land and the Arab waters in the Gulf of Sidra.

The Libyan Arab defenses, the Air Force and air defences, and the Navy, showed great proficiency in combatting the enemy by shooting down three of its aircraft, which fell burning into the bottom of the sea, and in forcing the U.S. invaders to stay off the Line of Death.

The conflicting U.S. statements exposed the U.S. enemy's aggressive plots and aims, and exposed the falsehood of its claims. The U.S. enemy claimed that its military maneuvers in the Libyan Arab Gulf of Sidra are aimed at asserting a right for international navigation in the gulf, but the U.S. Administration, by its iniquitous aggression againse one of the suburbs of the city of Surt, has revealed its aggressive aims and proved it used the military maneuvers in the Gulf of Sidra as an excuse for an aggression against the Libyan Arab people in retaliation for the defeats the United States suffered in the Arab region and in various regions of the world as a result of the Jamahiriyah's revolutionary stance toward the various Pan-Arab and international issues, especially as the Libyan Arab people's revolutionary pan-Arab stance has foiled the U.S. schemes to liquidate the Palestinian issue and subjugate the Arab homeland to U.S.-Zionist influence. The Libyan Arab people's revolutionary stance toward the treacherous Camp David agreement is the greatest influence in obstructing that agreement and halting its spread in the Arab homeland, and in aborting the projects of normalization between the [word indistinct] and the Zionists.

The Egyptian Arab people declared their rejection of, and opposition to, all forms of normalization that all the sides of Camp David try to impose upon them. The Egyptian Arab people expressed this rejection by bullets and blood and by the huge demonstrations that spread throughout Egypt expressing the Egyptian Arab people's rejection of the Zionist presence in their country, and of the regime's attempts to impose the projects of normalization on Egyptian life.

U.S. imperialism, whose conspiratorial plots against the Arab nation have failed abominably, understands well that the Libyan Arab people's revolutionary stance toward pan-Arab issues and their firm stand in the face of these plots is one of the major effective factors in the Arab-Zionist conflict, in the issue of the Arab struggle for liberation from the ties of Camp David, in the escalation of the armed struggle against the Zionist enemy, and in the rejection of all forms of U.S. influence and hegemony in the Arab homeland.

The U.S. aggression against the Libyan Arab people stems from this, which is a retaliation for the defeat that was inflicted on its plots and conspiratorial projects against the Arab nation. The U.S. aggression against the Libyan Arab people is an aggression against the whole Arab nation and is aimed at the Arab nation's security, freedom, and sovereignty over its land and greater Arab homeland. Therefore, according to the principle of self-defense, the masses of the great Arab nation must shoulder their responsibility in the battle of dignity and of Arab survival, and they must ignite a strong fire against the United States and its interests in the greater Arab homeland. They must prove, by their armed struggle, that they belong to the great Arab nation, which created the civilizations and victories. They are capable of dragging the ugly U.S. face into the mud, and they have all the means to defeat the U.S. aggression against the Arab Gulf of Sidra, and to force the United States to obey the Arab will and to respect the great Arab nation.

If the Arab workers achieved a great victory for the Arab nation against U.S. imperialism during the incident of the Arab ship *Cleopatra*, [not further specified] and through their brave stance against the U.S. ships and aircraft they forced the U.S. President at that time to bow to the Arab will and to apologize for the U.S.

position against the Arab ship, then the Arab masses will be able to force the present U.S. Administration and its chief, the failed actor, Reagan, to obey the Arab will today. The masses have all the means to do this. They can boycott U.S. goods and products; they can strike at and destroy the imperialist interests; and they can boycott U.S. ships and aircraft. This is considered as [words indistinct] the Arab land, and it is the only means for [words indistinct] and protecting the Arab land and existence, and for forcing the United States to respect the Arabs and their will, so that it recognizes the price of arrogance and aggression and to pay the price for them.

Arab League Resolution Criticized

GF270854 Doha QNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 Mar (QNA) — 'Umran Hammudah, Libyan assistant secretary of the General People's Congress for Foreign Liaison and head of the Libyan delegation to the meetings of the Arab League Council, has expressed some satisfaction "with the resolution adopted by the Arab League Council condemning the U.S. aggression against Libya." He said, however, that he is not totally satisfied with the resolution.

In a statement to the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I* published today, he revealed that the draft resolution included in its original form two clauses that were removed as a result of opposition by some delegations. He said that one of the two clauses requires the imposition of a total economic boycott on the United States while the other provides for severance of diplomatic relations with it.

He said that during the discussion of the draft resolution, the heads of three delegations frankly announced that they could not comply with these two demands, which made him announce his country's willingness to concede these two clauses so that the resolution might be approved.

Muhammad al-Zawi, the resident Libyan minister in Morocco, has stated that the U.S. aggression in the Gulf of Sidra cannot be possibly caused by a difference of opinion on a disputed issue of international law since such differences are dealt with by legal methods.

In a similar statement to *AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I*, he said that the U.S. aggression is in reality aimed at silencing any voice that opposes U.S. policy in the region. He said that the proof of this is that the units of the U.S. 6th Fleet did not restrict the confrontation to the sea but expanded their aggression to include the Libyan mainland, which is not subject to a disagreement.

Al-Zawi accused the U.S. Administration of carrying out predetermined provocation by holding repeated maneuvers in a short period of time opposite the Libyan shores, as well as intentionally passing latitude parallel 32, which Libya has defined as the limit of its territorial waters, in order to drag Libya into a confrontation.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Malta's Bonnici, Discuss U.S.

LD262145 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2011 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] This afternoon the brother leader of the revolution received Maltese Prime Minister Karmenu Mifsud Bonnici. The meeting was attended by brother Jadallah Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee. The Maltese prime minister enquired about the current situation and the U.S. military provocations against the Jamahiriyah.

The prime minister expressed the support of the Maltese Government and people for the Arab Libyan people in their brave confrontation with U.S. aggression. The meeting also dealt with the initiative of the Republic of Malta for convening the Security Council to examine the U.S. aggression.

The views of the two sides were identical over the idea that the Mediterranean is divided into economic zones between the states bordering it, and the fact that these zones are full of economic activity, such as transportation, fishing, and exploration for oil and gas, in addition to the existence of pipelines and communication lines, and that military activity and military maneuvers cause damage to these activities. Their views were also identical on the need for the states bordering the Mediterranean to combine their efforts to turn it into a lake of peace, and a useful economic activity in the service of the states bordering it.

Bonnici Leaves Tripoli

LD270924 Tripoli JANA in English 0818 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 16, March 27, JAMAHIRIYA NEWS AGENCY — Mr Carmenu Mifsud Bonnici, the Maltese prime minister, left Tripoli yesterday evening. Engineer Jadallah Azzuz al-Talhi, secretaary of the General People's Committee and Kamil Hasan al-Mansur the secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau bid him farewell at Tripoli international airport.

Festivities Planned To Mark Closure of UK Bases

LD270511 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0400 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The great festivities of the 16th anniversary of the evacuation of the British colonial bases, which desecrated the Libyan Arab territories and which were used to strike at the Arab nation, will commence this evening. The evacuation of the colonial bases was a severe blow to British colonialism and a strong slap on the ugly face of imperialism and the hirelings and reactionaries.

The festivities will culminate this evening with the lighting of the Evacuation Torch at Algeria Place in Tripoli. The masses of the Basic People's Congresses and the various popular and student sectors will participate in these festivities.

SUDAN

Daf'allah on Proposal To Improve Ties With Ethiopia

JN262106 Khartoum SUNA in English 1733 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, March 26, (SUNA) — Premier Al-Jazuli Daf'allah expressed his readiness to work for the success of a proposal, exposed by a Sudanese politician, aims at improving Sudanese-Ethiopian relations. Leader of Islamic Socialist Party Dr. Nasir al-Sayyid, who contacted the Ethiopian authorities, met with Dr. Daf'allah here yesterday in this regard.

(The initiative is based on a national charter aim at boosting relations between the two neighbouring countries) Al-Sayyid said, adding that the charter stipulates the consent of all political parties and national forces to lay down a strategy in the Sudanese- Ethiopian relations.

Dr. Al-Sayyid had represented his party in the talks took place recently at Koka (Ethiopia) between the National Alliance for the Salvation of the Country (NASC) and Sudanese Peoples Liberation Novement (SPLM) but he had withdrawn from the talks protesting the participation of Numayri's former Foreign Minister Dr. Mansur Khalid.

Cabinet Statement Condemns U.S. 'Aggression'

JN261842 Khartoum SUNA in English 1810 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, March 26, (SUNA) — Sudan has strongly condemned the U.S. aggression on Libya and declared the Sudanese people backing to the Libyan people. A statement issued by the Cabinet here today reaffirmed the Sudan firm stance with the Libyan people on the base of the Islamic Conference resolution issued last January in Fez and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) resolution issued current March.

The two resolutions give Libya a legitimate right to defend her territorial land, space and regional waters. Sudan, from this point, considers Gulf of Sidra as under the complete sovereignty of Libya, read the statement. On the other hand, the National Alliance for the Salvation of the Country (NASC) denounced, in a statement released here Wednesday, the U.S. aggression on the Libyan people.

The statement, moreover, called upon the government to take a solid stance in this concern. It, also, appealed the Sudanese people to reject the American hegemony, which aims always at creating an atmosphere of tension in the region.

The U.S. fighters taking off from the 6th Fleet, which is maneuvering of the Libyan shores, had sunk two Libyan patrolships and hit a missile base near Surt town last Monday according to a U.S. spokesman official statement.

Lawyers Call for Strikes Against U.S. Interests

JN261921 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1810 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Mar (SUNA) — The Sudanese Bar Association has held the United States responsible for threatening international security and escalating military provocations against Libya. Lawyers doyen Mirghani al-Nasir said in a statement to the press that the United States, leader of international terrorism, escalated its provocations against fraternal Libya. This direct military aggression is represented by striking at Libyan regional territory and waters.

The doyen added that the bar association not only calls for condemning U.S. imperialism but also calls on the Sudanese and Arab masses to defeat imperialism by striking at its interests in the Arab region.

The doyen said that the Sudanese Bar Association will prepare the Sudanese people to practically and directly support the Libyan people in their defense of the homeland's sovereignty and Arab dignity. He said that the international community should shoulder its responsibility and stop this tampering with international norms and laws.

Islamic Socialist Party Condemns U.S. 'Aggression'

JN261900 Khartoum SUN ain Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Mar (SUNA) — The Islamic Socialist Party has strongly condemned the criminal U.S. aggression against fraternal Libya, stressing that this is not an aggression against Libya alone but against the entire Arab region. In a statement issued today, the party stressed that it firmly stands against this brutal aggression and that it supports the Libyan people in their legitimate struggle to secure their coast and safeguard their sovereignty over their regional territory and waters.

The party called for declaring a state of emergency and general mobilization as well as opening doors for recruiting people to defend the Libyan people.

Defense Minister Denies Wau Surrounded by SPLM

JN270949 Khartoum SUNA in English 0920 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 27 (SUNA) — Defence Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah yesterday denied that Bahr al-Ghazal capital, Wau, is surrounded by SPLM forces. The Armed Forces are in full control over the situation in southern Sudan, he said. 'Abdallah was commenting on a story despatched by AFP quoting arrivals from southern Sudan that SPLM has encircled Wau.

National Alliance Official on Talks With SPLM

JN261804 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1710 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Mar (SUNA) — Dr Khalid Yagi, leader of the National Alliance delegation to the talks with the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM], has announced that the agreements reached by the two parties at the Ethiopia talks will be discussed by the National Alliance. He expressed hope that the parties outside the alliance will take these agreements seriously.

Dr Yagi added that many things have been achieved in the dialogue. The date and arrangements for the constitutional conference to be held in Khartoum have been defined. He expressed his conviction that many obstacles to the dialogue can be removed. He pointed out that the September and emergency laws can be canceled, the agreements with foreign countries do not necessarily bind people to achieve peace, and the form of the future government, which is a point of difference with the SPLM, can be resolved by continuing the dialogue.

Dr Yagi said that despite the short period of time left to the military council and the Cabinet, the decisions adopted by the alliance will be submitted to the Cabinet to explain the efforts made for peace. Dr Yagi noted that the alliance feels that the SPLM and John Garang are very serious. He added that Garang affirmed his concern for the unity of Sudan and that he had rejected ousted President Numayri's call for him to become his first deputy.

Dr Yagi stressed that the alliance was surprised at the inclusion of Dr Mansur Khalid, a former politician, in the SPLM delegation. He said that the alliance expressed its opposition to his participation in light of his previous role in serving the regime of the ousted Numayri. He said that what has been achieved is considered a big step because this was the first dialogue in which the alliance participated — a dialogue in which the parties were represented and which was thoroughly prepared for. He added that Eng 'Awadh al-Karim Muhammad Ahmad, secretary general of the alliance and the secretariat, stayed in Addis Ababa to complete the documents of the agreement.

Garang Says SPLM Rejects Partial Elections

JN261946 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum March, 26 (SUNA) — Leader of Sudanese Peoples Liberation Movement SPLM Col. John Garang has reiterated his movement rejection to any partial elections in the country. Mr. Garang said the elections, which is scheduled to start on the first of the coming April in some part of the southern Sudan because of the security situation there, aims at isolating the southern Sudan and preventing it from a national right.

The daily *Al-SAHAFAH* published here today quoted Garang as saying SPLM is not merely seeking war, but it aims at achieving and ambitius targets connected with building a new Sudan. Garang urged all the political factions in the country to take part in the proposed constitutional conference which will tackle the problems of the Sudan,.

He went on criticizing the holding of the conference after the elections reaffirming that the conference ought to precede the elections till achieving its targets. Garang added that the SPLM will carry on war against the current government and the coming one resulted from the partial elections.

SPLA Denies Sudan Allegations of Ethiopian Arms Supply

EA262219 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Arabic 1330 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The official spokesman of the SPLA-SPLM high command has condemned the report carried by the Sudanese information organs last week to the effect that the Ethiopian government has violated Sudanese airspace and that aircraft of the Ethiopian Air Force have transported ammunition and provisions to the SPLA camps deep inside Sudanese territory.

The SPLA-SPLM official spokesman said that these accusations and allegations, disseminated by the Sudanese Government, are unfounded. He said the SPLA-SPLM has absolutely no knowledge of aircraft transporting provisions to it, either from the Ethiopian Government or any other state. The spokesman of the SPLA-SPLM High Command added that SPLA forces, which are an army waging guerrilla warfare, do not possess vehicles, except those that they captured recently from the Sudanese Government in the Upper Nile and Bahr al-Ghazal areas. They transport their provisions on foot.

The SPLA-SPLM official spokesman went on to say that the acuteness of the internal contradictions in Sudan and the TMC's inability to resolve these contradictions and problems compel the council to direct false accusations at its neighbors in order to justify their failure to confront the country's fundamental problems. The SPLA-SPLM official spokesman went on to say that the ill-intentioned ruling TMC does not want to relinquish power. Therefore, it is striving to create excuses to remain in power. So, it is trying to make the Sudanese people believe that there is an emergency situation and foreign intervention that demands the continuation of the generals hold on power.

The official spokesman of the SPLA High Command stressed that these tendencies on the part of the TMC are reflected in the statements made by its leaders. General Taj al-Din al-Sirr recently made a statement about the need to form a national government after the elections. He said that some members of the TMC would be retired. Others would remain in the army. The official spokesman of the SPLA high command asked whether the TMC was entitled to speak about what would happen after the elections.

In his statement, the official spokesman of the SPLA High Command expressed his strong belief in the ability of the Sudanese people who unleashed two great revolutions during the course of two decades, to wrest power from the hands of the generals. In conclusion, the official spokesman of the SPLA High Command called on the Sudanese Army to expose the TMC's designs, to strive to topple it and to adhere to the aims of the popular revolution.

ETHIOPIA

Nation Condemns U.S. 'Attack' on Libya

EA261904 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1700 GMT 26 MAR 86

[Text] Revolutionary Ethiopia has strongly condemned the U.S. Administration's military aggression against Libya in violation of international law. It called on the peace-loving and democratic forces of the world to put pressure on the administration so that it will refrain from such actions. Revolutionary Ethiopia made this call today in a Foreign Ministry statement on the United States' aggression against Libya last Monday.

The statement also expressed Ethiopia's firm support for and solidarity with the people and Government of Libya. It pointed out that everybody could see that the U.S. Administration had been planning to carry out an act of overt aggression against Libya for some time. It called on the United States to halt this illegal action, which has jeopardized peace and stability in North Africa and the Mediterranean area.

The statement recalled that on 29 January 1986, Revolutionary Ethiopia issued a statement condemning the tension created by the United States' acts of provocation, its military exercises, and the movements of the 6th Fleet aimed at attacking Libya. In the statement, Revolutionary Ethiopia noted that America's action could lead to serious military confrontation in the region. It called on the United States to halt the provocative military exercises, which were aimed against Libya's territorial integrity and dignity.

The Foreign Ministry statement pointed out that since then the U.S. Administration has not only continued its provocative acts but has carried out military action against Libyan ships and installations. It noted that the U.S. Government's plan to attack Libya has become clear.

Defense Minister Denies Sudanese Airspace Violated

NC261937 Paris AFP in English 1923 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 26 (AFP) — Ethiopia on Wednesday rejected as "unfounded" a charge by Sudanese Defense Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad that Ethiopian fighter aircraft had violated Sudanese air space to support rebels in the south of the country.

General 'Abdallah said on Monday that Ethiopian MIG-23 fighters and Antonov-12 transport planes had flown over Southern Sudan in support of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

This had amounted to "direct intervention on behalf of the SPLA," he added.

Gen. 'Abdallah was also reported to have said that his country had made an official protest to Ethiopia over the incident. He warned that his country might invoke its 1976 defence pact with Egypt as a result of the alleged incursion.

In a reaction which observers here saw as mild, the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry said it was "not to be ruled out" that the allegation was provoked by "some elements in the Sudanese Government" opposed to efforts to improve relations between Ethiopia and Sudan.

It was to be regretted that the accusation came at a time when Ethiopia was engaged in a bid to help the Sudanese people overcome their differences, the statement added.

This was a reference to peace talks which Ethiopia hosted last week between an influential grouping of Sudanese political parties and trade unions, and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement — the SPLA's political wing.

The five days of talks in the town of Koka ended on Monday with the two sides agreeing in principle to hold a national constitutional conference in Khartoum in June, with the aim of ending the civil war in Southern Sudan and to resolve the country's other internal problems.

SOMALIA

Si'ad Barre Thanks PRC for Rescheduling Loan

EA262221 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Somali President Challe Muhammad Si'ad Barre today exployed the mass media to issue a warm commendation to the party, state organs, the armed forces, and the general masses of Somalia who participated in the cordial reception extended to PRC President Mr Li Xiannian, his wife, and his important delegation.

Somali President Challe Muhammad Si'ad Barre further said that the PRE Government has decided to reschedule loans made to Somalia to finance some projects until Somalia's current economic difficulties have been surmounted. The Somali president said that the PRC Government has also made a long-term loan at zero interest to Somalia and has also granted assistance to orphanages.

Opposition Front Elects Chairman, Adopts Resolutions

EA261356 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The Second Congress of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] concluded its work at the second headquarters of the DFSS this evening. After the congress, which was in progress for 6 days, there was a routine meeting such as has been held by the Front during its 8 years of existence.

The congress, which took place in an atmosphere of consultation, maturity and stability, issued resolutions which, God willing, are expected to speed up the victory of the struggle. The Second Congress [word indistinct] elected Dr Hasan Ali Mireh the chairman of the Front. Dr Hasan Ali Mireh, who was one of the founders of DFSS, graduated from Princeton University, New Jersey, United States, where he read political science. The Second Congress of the DFSS also approved the Central Committee members of the DFSS, who number 43 including the chairman. Listeners, we shall read their names to you after the news.

The Second Congress of the DFSS which sat 19-25 March adopted the following resolutions:

1. The expansion of the political recognition of the DFSS.
2. The unification of the Somali opposition forces, particularly the (?realization) of the unifying of the two groups of the Somali National Movement and DFSS, and generally the unification of the other [word indistinct] of the Somali people.
3. To win the support of the Somali masses who are in favor of the struggle.
4. The DFSS warns the governments who support the dictatorial regime in Mogadishu.
5. Amnesty for all political detainees and ordinary prisoners of the DFSS.
6. To issue an appeal to international relief organizations on behalf of Somali refugees.
7. Amnesty for combatants who left the front and who committed no crimes against the struggle.
8. The Front supports the governments of the Arab Jamahriyah of Libya and Nicaragua and is opposed to the provocations and aggression of U.S. imperialism.
9. The DFSS expresses gratitude to the governments which [word indistinct] the struggle of the DFSS politically and militarily.
10. The DFSS also supports the struggle and movements fighting for justice all over the world.
11. The congress expresses gratitude to all members who contributed to the successful conclusion of the Second DFSS Congress.

Elects Central Committee

EA261405 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali
to Somalia 1700 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia Second Congress has named members of the Central Committee. Their names are as follows:
1. Dr Hasan Haji Ali Mireh, chairman;
2. Muhammad Abshir (Welde), Mahmud Muse Hirsi (Adde), Abdullahi Muhammad Gedi [last name indistinct], Ahmad Jama Abdille (Biriye), Ali Adan Abdulle, Dr Bashir Ali Bihi, Abdullahi Maalin Warsame (Bidaar), (?Engineer) Ismail Haji Warsame, Ahmad Tahlil Dore, Hasan Yusuf Ali (Galabey), Mahmud Shidane Guled (Jogof), Ahmad Dahir (Afrah), Abd al-Aziz (Nogal), Ali Nur Muhammad Ahmad, (Afar) Hasan Dama [last name indistinct], [name indistinct] Ali (?Yushay), Abd al-Razak Umar (Hashi), Muse Shaykh Mahmud Siyad, Muhammad Ismail Baribari, Nur Adan Yusuf, Abdullahi Muhammad [other names indistinct], Mahmud [other names indistinct], Muhammad Issa (Askar), Yasin [other names indistinct], Abd al-Razak ali Haji, Hirsi Bulhan Farah, Dr Yasin Sufi Husayn, Abdullahi Haji Elmi, Abd al-Rahman Shire Warsame, Muhammad Nur Muhammad (Balile), Suleyman Dahir Afqarshe, Abdullahi Muse Aw-Ali, Abdi Yusuf Riyaleh, Abd al-Rahman Haji Dirye, Adan Shaykhdon Ali, Mahmud Abdi Ali (Bay), Muhammad Farah Jumale, Abdullahi Jama Kulmiye, Yasin Haji Mhmud Abdilleh, Umar Salad Elmi, Abd al-Razak Shakh Ahmad Ali, and Abdullahi Haji Ahmad (Hadde).

UGANDA

Museveni Announces New Public Appointments

LD261330 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1900 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has made the following appointments. They take immediate effect:

Permanent secretary in the Office of the President and head of the Public Service: Mr (H. Obow);
Secretary for administration in the Office of the President; Mr (Henry Balo);
Permanent secretary, Office of the Prime Minister; Mr (Rangirana);
Secretary to the Cabinet: Mr (Baruzi);
Permanent secretary in the Ministry of Public Service and Current Affairs: Mr Wilson Wanyama;
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Public Service and Cabinet Affairs Special Duties: Mr (Serwanja);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Industry and Technology: Mr (Ahmed Katumba);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Cooperatives and Marketing: Mr (Rutega);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Lands and Survey: Mr (Bakashaba Ruhanga);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Environment: Mr (Nganwa);
Clerk to the National Assembly: Mr (Ochuol);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development: Mr (Tusimi Mutevile);
Solicitor general: Mr Francis Ayume;
Secretary for defense: Mr (A. Karugaba);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development: Mr (Mutwatwa);
The secretary to the Public Service Commission: Mr (Walusimbi);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Work: Mr (Jay Chobe);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Regional Cooperation: Mr (Kesi Nyakimwe);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry: Mr (Ofwono);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Internal Affairs: (Katamba Lujo);
Permanent secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Mr Kasirye;
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting: Mr Ben Otto;
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Health: Dr Kinene;
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife: Mr Dramadri;
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Youth, Culture and Sports: Mr (Henry Balamaze Lwanga);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Animal Industry and Fisheries: Dr (Masava);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Transport and Communications: Mr (A. Okumu);

Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Labor: Mr (Peter Ochang);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Energy: Mr (Opika Opoka);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Commerce: Mr J. Kige;
The secretary to the Treasury: Mr (Kahoza);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Rehabilitation: Mr (C. Rwanika);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Local Government: Mr (Gasasira);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Water and Mineral Development: Mrs (Opiyo).

Permanent secretaries whose names do not appear on this list will be assigned other duties in due course.

NRM Official, Prime Minister Address Rally

EA262234 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The vice chairman of the National Resistance Movement [NRM], Mr Moses Kigongo, has urged the people of Uganda to support the NRM ideals by electing resistance committees which are the basis of restoring peace in the country. He, however, cautioned them against electing people on political and religious grounds. He said the government welcomes everyone as long as he or she is a good person. Mr Kigongo, who was addressing a mammoth rally in Iganga Town, assured the people of Iganga that the government will do everything possible to ensure that peace returns and is maintained throughout the country. He urged the people to be patient and to preserve [as heard] as efforts are being made to improve the situation.

The vice-chairman warned the people against using resistance committees to mete out judgement on suspected criminals. He said committees have no power of executing anybody. He also cautioned the committees against engaging in acts of corruption like taking bribes. Mr Kigongo warned the people who want to take advantage of any confusion that their time had run out and they should stop it immediately.

The rally was also addressed by Prime Minister Kisekka, who called on Ugandans to unite, saying that in unity Ugandans will be able to tap the country's numerous resources which had been neglected by previous governments since independence. The prime minister asked all Ugandans to love the young boys and girls of the NRA [National Resistance Army] and who liberated them.

CAR

French Plane Crashes in Capital 27 Mar, 20 Killed

AB271052 Paris AFP in English 1045 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Bangui, March 27 (AFP) — Around 20 people died here on Thursday when a French Jaguar fighter plane crashed onto a populated neighbourhood in Bangui, capital of the Central African Republic, it was reported here. The plane was said to have crashed 5 kilometres (2 miles) from the city centre on a poor neighbourhood.

France has bases in Central Africa with which it has a defence pact. The country borders Chad, where French planes have also been based since February.

The Defence Ministry in Paris confirmed the report, saying the plane had crashed due to a technical problem on take-off from an airstrip in Bangui. The pilot had been able to eject from the aircraft, and was injured, the ministry statement said.

It confirmed however that a number of Africans had been killed when the plane crashed, without giving any casualty figures. An inquiry has been opened into the causes of the crash, the French statement said.

CHAD

Habre Presides Over First Meeting of New Cabinet

AB262109 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The first meeting of the new government formed on 23 March 1986 was held this morning. President Hissein Habre received all the new Cabinet members this morning at the meeting designed to get in touch with them. During the meeting, the head of state briefed the third Government of the Third Republic on the economic and political situation of the country.

In fact, the meeting which only lasted 1 hour, from 1000 to 1100, was not meant for a thorough analysis of the situation. The head of state, however, made it a point to set the guidelines of this government's action, in view of the war situation which the country is facing due to Libya's permanent aggression, and of the struggle to be carried out on the economic front to lead Chad out of its (?underdevelopment).

Habre, Lassou Meet With Nigerian Foreign Minister

AB262131 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The president of the Republic, El-Hadj Hissein Habre, received Nigerian Minister of External Relations Bolaji Akinyemi this morning for over an hour. Mr Akinyemi was leading a delegation of his country. Present at the audience were Gouara Lassou, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Chad's ambassador to Nigeria, his excellency Youssouf Mbani, and Ahmed (Nissami), senior private secretary of the president of the Republic. The bilateral relations between Chad and Nigeria and the current burning issues were at the center of the talks which the Nigerian diplomat held with President Habre.

Mr Akinyemi stated that Nigeria was closely watching developments in the political situation in Chad. He (?held the view) that the national reconciliation process must be fostered by all means. This is what he told Radio Chad: [passage indistinct].

CONGO

GUNT Delegation Arrives in Brazzaville

AB261758 Paris AFP in French 1725 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Brazzaville, 26 Mar (AFP) — A delegation of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT, armed opposition to Ndjamena) arrived in Brazzaville today shortly after 1600 local time (1500 GMT).

Facho Balaam, GUNT "minister" of foreign affairs, is leading the delegation which arrived on board an Aeroflot aircraft from Tripoli. The delegation, which includes in particular Mahamat Louani, GUNT's secretary general, was received by Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, a Chadian source said.

According to this source, GUNT President Goukouni Oueddei will only arrive in Brazzaville tomorrow afternoon and not today as it was previously announced. Also expected tomorrow afternoon are Chadian President Hissein Habre and OAU chairman and Senegalese head of state Abdou Diouf.

BENIN

Party Statement Supports Libya, Condemns U.S.

AB270932 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 27 Mar 86

["Statement" issued in Cotonou by the Political Bureau of the People's Revolution Party of Benin's Central Committee on 26 March following reports of American and Libyan military clashes in the Gulf of Sidra — read by Martin Dohou Azonhiho, member of the Political Bureau]

[Text] Statement by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolution Party of Benin [PRPB]: Since Monday, 24 March 1986, the air and maritime space of the Gulf of Sidra, off the coast of Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, has been the scene of American and Libyan military clashes which dangerously threaten peace and security in this part of the Mediterranean and forces the whole of mankind to the disturbing risk of a conflagration with incalculable consequences.

In the face of the extreme gravity of such a situation, the Political Bureau of the PRPB Central Committee, after an extraordinary meeting held today, Wednesday 26 March 1986, has decided to publish the following statement:

In imperialism's hegemonic strategy of colonial reconquest designed to stop the people's fight for freedom, and perpetuate its domination of them, military force in time of peace constitutes the means periodically used by imperialism to intimidate states and subvert their legitimate desire for independence by continually letting hang over them the specter of military intervention, which has no other objective than to maintain an international political order which favors the devilish aims of the forces of evil and the powers (?that be).

It is within this context that one must understand the recent renewal of the maneuvers of the U.S. Sixth Fleet off the Libyan coast, that is, in that part of the Mediterranean and the northern subregion of our continent which is at the center of the destabilizing designs of imperialist and Zionist forces. By resorting to force and deliberate acts of provocation, the U.S. Administration did not exercise wisdom and level-headedness which should have characterized the action of a superpower that is a permanent member of the UN Security Council, whose noble mission is to see to the safeguarding of peace and international security.

The Beninese people, their vanguard party, the PRPB, and their revolutionary state, which bitterly experienced imperialist armed aggression on Sunday 16 January 1977, express their total and unwavering support to the courageous Libyan Arab people in these difficult and trying moments imposed on them by the imperialist and revanchist aggressor. They call for the active solidarity of all freedom-and peace-loving people to resolutely oppose the destabilization attempts of which the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah is the victim.

The Political Bureau of the PRPB's Central Committee warmly hails the courage and unflinching determination of the enterprising Libyan Arab people, and expresses its profound conviction that under the guide of its leader, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Al-Fatih Revolution, they will overcome the criminal aggression perpetrated against his great and beautiful country.

Ready for the revolution! The struggle continues!

Issued in Cotonou on 26 March 1986, by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee

BURKINA FASO

Heads of State Arrive for CEAO, ANAD Summits

AB261455 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The 11th summit of the CEAO [West African Economic Community], the 4th summit of the Liptako-Gourma Authority and that of the ANAD [Non-Aggression and Defense Aid Agreement] will open this afternoon in Ouagadougou, after the summits of Bamako in 1984. All the heads of state of the countries involved have arrived in our capital. After the Niger prime minister, Presidents Kerekou of Benin and Ould Taya of Mauritania who arrived yesterday afternoon, the militant people of the capital this morning welcomed Presidents Moussa Traore of Mali, Abdou Diouf of Senegal, and Felix Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast. They were all received upon their arrival by Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the CNR [National Council of the Revolution] and president of republic. Our august visitors were warmly cheered by thousands of militants during their drive through the major streets from the Ouagadougou International Airport to the Kilimande Hotel where they are staying.

CEAO Summit Opens

HK270426 Hong Kong AFP in English 0414 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Ouagadougou, March 27 (AFP) — Austerity measures imposed in the past 18 months have "renovated" the West African Economic Community (CEAO) and turned it into "a new body", outgoing Chairman Thomas Sankara, the leader of Burkina Faso, told opening of the 11th summit here Wednesday night.

He also noted that one of his country's revolutionary people's tribunals had this week started the trial of two former senior CEAO officials and an ex-minister from Ivory Coast on charges of embezzling six billion CFA francs (15 million dollars) from the community.

The summit of the seven-nation group started five months late, after a period of relative paralysis. Ministers preparing the agenda last week have itemized major proposals for shaking up the community's lately lethargic solidarity and intervention development fund, conference sources said. Member countries had given assurances that arrears to the fund would be settled up now, they said.

Malian Nominated for Secretary General

AB271057 Dakar PANA in English 1051 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Ouagadougou, 27 March (PANA) — M. Mamadou Haidara from Mali has been nominated as the new secretary general of the West African Economic Community [CEAO].

Revolutionary People's Tribunal Hearings Postponed

AB261536 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The resumption of hearings at the 15th session of the Revolutionary People's Tribunal [TPR] of Ouagadougou, scheduled to take place today at 1500 has been postponed until tomorrow morning at 0900 at the Ouagadougou Palace of Justice, according to a communique issued by the chairman of the TPR.

GHANA

Death Sentences Announced for Coup Plotters

AB262048 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The public tribunal today sentenced Alhaji Abubakar Musah and one Abdulai, who is at large, to death by firing squad on charges of attempting to overthrow the government. A third accused person, Ambrose Kofi Twumasi Afriyie, was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment. The sentence takes effect from the day of his arrest in 1983. According to the tribunal, enough evidence has been established to show that the accused persons conspired to overthrow the government.

Liberia's Blamo: Relations 'Still Warm'

AB261048 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The Liberian minister for foreign affairs, Dr J. Bernard Blamo, has said that the cordial relations between Ghana and Liberia are still warm. Furthermore, both countries are committed to freedom and the economic welfare of their peoples. Dr Blamo, who is leading a 3-man delegation to the 2-day extraordinary session of the OAU Ministerial Council meeting which opens in Addis Ababa on Sunday, was speaking to newsmen at the Kotoka International Airport during a day's stopover last night in Accra. He said the conference will study a report by the OAU secretariat on economic issues which is to be presented at the UN session in May. Dr Blamo said the conference will also appeal to developed countries to assist African nations in their economic problems.

On the present situation in Liberia, Dr Blamo conceded that there are serious economic problems in the country. This is because of a sharp fall in the price of exportable products like rubber, coffee, and cocoa. However, Dr Blamo said, the government has adopted stringent measures including cuts in wages and salaries, and the privatization of a number of business concerns. On the political situation, the minister said the recent agitation in the country shows a new trend of political evolution taking place in the country. He, however, said that some of the agitations are politically motivated.

At the airport to welcome him were the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, and the Liberian ambassador in Ghana, Mr David Wilson.

LIBERIA

Minister Blamo On Way To Addis Ababa OAU Meeting

AB261020 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] A 3-man Liberian delegation headed by the minister of foreign affairs, J. Bernard Blamo, is on its way for the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, to attend an extraordinary session of the OAU Council of Ministers scheduled for 30 to 31 March. The delegation, which departed Monrovia yesterday, includes the asisistant minister of foreign affairs, Thomas Eestman, and the assistant foreign minister for afro-asian affairs, Mr William Bruce.

The extraordinary session is a preparatory meeting aimed at formulating an African position for discussions at the UN special meeting on the critical economic situation in Africa scheduled to convene in May this year.

From Addis Ababa, Foreign Minister Blamo will visit the Republic of Egypt from 1 to 3 April, and later proceed to Rome, Italy, through 7 April. In both countries, Minister Blamo will hold bilateral discussions with officials of governments of the respective countries in the interest of government.

Opposition Lawyers Protest Probation Writ

AB261055 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Three lawyers representing the joint coalition of three opposition parties in Liberia have requested Supreme Court Justice in Chambers, L.O. Djangabah, to dismiss the petition for a writ of probation against the parties. They said the allegations that their planned rally was intended to form a coalition to cause chaos, disarray, confusion, incite and inflame the minds of the public, and likely to result into violence for the sole purpose of troubling the government and endangering the economic stability of the country, is an outright deception intended to use the Supreme Court to frustrate democratic process in the country.

According to the respondents' returns filed to the Supreme Court, the lawyers representing the Liberia Action Party, the Unity Party, and the Liberia Unification Party said the allegation was also intended to merely point fingers at the members of the coalition. The truth, they said, is that no reasonable mind equipped with full knowledge of the activities of these decent law-abiding citizens in Liberia, or anywhere in the civilized world, could by any imagination associate them with violence, noting that they had formed a coalition and not a coalition party.

The lawyers also noted that the National Democratic Party of Liberia has held mass political rallies all over the country without interference, and therefore, according to them, to bar respondents from holding similar rallies amounts to a violation of the right to equal protection of the law as guaranteed under Article 11 C of the Constitution.

Independent Paper Fined for Unaccredited Report

AB261430 Paris AFP in English 0848 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Monrovia, March 26 (AFP) — The independent Liberian newspaper, *THE MIRROR*, was fined 200 dollars Tuesday [25 March] for "failing to credit" the state-run LIBERIA NEWS AGENCY (LINA) with a statement the newspaper published Saturday [22 March]. The fine was imposed by the seven-member Liberian Senate committee which is probing the causes of a student rampage last week.

THE MIRROR had published a dispatch from LINA which said the Senate committee had blamed parents for "failing to impact discipline" in the children and teachers for "instigating students to revolt."

The Senate committee, headed by former opposition member Tuan Wreh of the Liberia Action Party, denied the LINA dispatch and has asked the agency's director-general Edward Davis to show cause why he and his editor-general should not be held in contempt for "misquoting" the panel.

ANGOLA

Over 89 'Armed Bandits' Killed in Recent Operations

MB251534 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The soldiers of the national army have annihilated more than 89 UNITA armed bandits during offensive actions carried out in the 10th, 6th, and 3d military regions over the last few days.

An authorized military source said in Luanda that a further seven criminals were captured, as were large quantities of weapons and war material.

ANGOP quotes this source as saying about 150 light and heavy weapons, 6 radio transmitters, (?1) anti-personnel mine, and cartridges, knapsacks, water flasks, raincoats, and several (camping tents) were captured.

According to the source, these FAPLA actions were carried out in the provinces of Lunda Norte, Lunda Sul, Cuando Cubango, and Moxico.

LESOTHO

Maseru Reports Botha-Lekhanya Talks in Cape Town

MB270739 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The chairman of the Military Council and Council of Ministers, His Excellency Maj. Gen. Metsing Lekhanya, held discussions with the president of South Africa, Mr P.W. Botha, in Cape Town today. In a joint statement issued by Mr P.W. Botha, state president of the RSA, and Maj. Gen. J.M. Lekhanya, chairman of the Military Council of the Kingdom of Lesotho, the leaders welcomed the opportunity to meet and discuss important matters of mutual interest and concern to the two governments.

They emphasized their adherence to the principles of mutual respect and noninterference in the internal affairs of sovereign states, and reaffirmed that they will not allow their territories to be used for the planning and execution of acts of terrorism against the other.

They also reaffirmed the necessity for cooperation in the interests of the people of both countries, and agreed that lasting peace and stability are of primary importance for the economic development, not only of their two countries, but also of the southern African region as a whole. To this end, their governments will examine practical forms of cooperation in such fields as economic development, food production, trade, transport, health, tourism, and training.

A main feature of the discussion was the Lesotho Highland Water Project. The two governments agreed in principle that this project is to the benefit of both countries and will contribute to their economic progress. They expressed the view that the few outstanding aspects would soon be resolved to mutual satisfaction.

The two leaders discussed the need for appropriate official representation in each country, in order to serve the interests of each other's citizens more effectively and expeditiously and also to manage the envisaged mutual projects. It was agreed that this question will be further considered by the two governments.

On this visit Maj. Gen. Lekhanya was accompanied by a member of the Military Council, Col. Thaabe Letsie; the minister of water, energy, and mining, Col. Lesole Jane; the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Lengolo Monyake; the minister of finance, Mr Retselisitsoe Sekhonyana; and the secretary to the Military Council, Mr Thom Thabane. To meet Maj. Gen. Lekhanya and his entourage at the D.F. Malan Airport, outside Cape Town, this morning was South Africa's foreign minister, Mr R.F. Botha.

NAMIBIA

SWATF Says 13 SWAPO 'Insurgents' Killed Recently

MB251942 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1932 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Windhoek, March 25, SAPA — Security forces in northern SWA/Namibia have shot dead 12 SWAPO insurgents in various skirmishes the last five days, the SWA Territory Force said in Windhoek today.

Another insurgent was shot and killed by a civilian, which brings to 192 the number of insurgents "neutralised" since the beginning of the year.

The SWATF said in a statement that a group of insurgents carried out a stand-off bombardment of a pump station of the department of water affairs at Concor in northern SWA/Namibia on Saturday. The roof of a building, a plant and a road grader were damaged.

After the attack the insurgents fled north and stopped at a village for food, but the village head became suspicious and shot dead one of the insurgents, the SWATF said. In a follow-up operation the next day, another insurgent was killed by the security forces.

The SWATF said that in another incident, two children, Jonas William, 15, and Philippus Ndemyema, 10, detonated a Soviet-made SK5 rifle grenade by hitting the object with a length of wood.

Jonas sustained serious abdominal wounds and the two children were taken to a military sick bay at Ondangua where an emergency operation was performed on the seriously injured boy.

SOUTH AFRICA

Malan Denies SADF Involved in Mabopane Maneuvers

MB251500 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1438 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] House of Assembly, Mar 25, SAPA — No SADF personnel were engaged in manoeuvres in Mabopane in 1986, the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, said today in reply to a question by Mr Peter Soal (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] Johannesburg North).

Natal University Withdraws Consent for Conference

MB261252 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] This weekend's crucial education conference, scheduled to be held at Natal University, is in jeopardy. Carmel Rickard reports.

[Rickard] The conference is to be attended by about 1,2000 delegates from all over South Africa. They will consider government's responses to the ultimatum given several months ago about the conditions under which pupils would attend school this year. It was to be held on Natal University campus in Durban, but the organizers have been called to a meeting by university officials and told permission to hold it on campus had been withdrawn. They were told the university security would not be able to cope with the situation, and the tension on campus following Friday night's devastating fires was running high and could be inflamed by such a meeting. The organizers are now frantically trying to find an alternative venue for the crucial meeting.

Conference To Go Ahead

MB261541 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1512 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 26, SAPA — The National Education Crisis Committees (NECC) conference in Durban at the weekend would go ahead despite Natal University's decision to withdraw its campus as a venue.

The NECC's organising secretary, the Rev Molefe Tsele, said today an alternative venue near the campus would be found for the conference. He said the fires last week on the campus — apparently aimed at preventing or protesting future talks on consolidation between Natal and KwaZulu — were responsible for the university no longer being able to host the conference.

The event has been called to assess government progress in meeting demands made at an education summit organised at the University of the Witwatersrand in December.

The demands, which carried a three month deadline, included:

— The release of detained students and teachers;
— The lifting of the state of emergency;
— The withdrawal of the SADF from the townships; and
— The unbanning of the Congress of South African Students (COSAS).

About 1400 delegates are expected to attend the conference, of which Mr Tsele said almost 80 per cent were "grassroots members of the communities" they represent. About 100 organisations will also be represented.

The conference will be opened at 6.30pm on Saturday and a keynote address will be delivered by a speaker still to be named. Sunday's session will be closed to the press while the conference goes through resolutions which have already been prepared at regional level, Mr Tsele said. The NECC hopes to announce the venue for the conference tomorrow.

Viljoen on Conference, Demands

MB261211 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1109 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, Mar 27, SAPA — Effective and responsible sharing of political power required educated and skilled people with high moral and Christian values, the minister of education and development aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen said today.

In a statement in Cape Town he said no country could be governed by illiterates and his department was doing everything possible to improve education in the interest of every child.

Dr Viljoen said he had taken note of a national education conference scheduled for March 28-30 to be held under the auspices of the National Education Crisis Committee [NECC] to consider black education.

"The government has accepted the responsibility to offer effective education and to work towards equal education in the shortest possible time.

"However, there is a great responsibility on every community to create an atmosphere in which effective education can take place and to ensure that all deliberations on education are based on sound educational principles and not on political emotions."

He said it was clear from slogans such as "freedom now, education later" that there were political groupings who were abusing education for "ulterior political purposes" to the detriment of the child.

The Department of Education and Training had maintained a policy of open communication with education organisations and people.

During meetings with the Soweto parents crisis committee and the NECC several demands had been made which included:

— The abolition of school fees;
— The supply of free books;
— Repair of schools damaged in unrest;
— The postponement of examinations;

— The recognition of "democratic SRC's" [Student Representative Councils]; and
— The abolition of corporal punishment, sexual harassment of female students and the unconditional reinstatement of transferred or dismissed teachers.

Dr Viljoen said the Department of Education and Training had explained in a response to these demands that school fees were not applicable but only voluntary contributions were made by parents. Text books had been provided free to pupils since 1979 and from this year free stationery was also being supplied.

The department was engaged in a programme to repair damaged schools but continuing unrest was hampering progress.

On the postponment of examinations, he said the dates for the examinations had been finalised after consultation with all concerned parties.

The possiblity of establishing democratically elected SRC's existed and these were functioning at a number of schools.

Detailed regulations existed for the protection of children. Any malpractices such as excessive corporal punishment or sexual harassment should be reported immediately.

The transfer and dismissal of teachers was done on educational grounds and in the best interests of the pupils.

Dr Viljoen said all educational demands had been addressed but it was disconcerting that many of the facts about demands were being misrepresented to "ferment unrest and disruption at schools".

It was time for parents to take note that their children were being misused and sacrificed for political purposes and that the disruption of education was destroying the future of many pupils and their families.

PFP's Andrew Reacts to Viljoen

MB261425 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1420 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, Mar 26, SAPA — It was unrealistic to expect schools to function normally when the society in which they had to operate was in a state of upheaval, Mr Ken Andrew, PFP [Progressive Federal Party] spokesman on black education, said today.

Reacting to a statement by the Minister of Education and Development Aid Dr Gerrit Viljoen, on the planned national education conference this weekend, Mr Andrew said the minister's words would do little to defuse the crisis in black education.

"When black people of all ages are being shot, detained, teargased, murdered and harassed; when school-leavers are unemployed by the hundreds of thousands; and when the authority of the government has broken down in many areas, it is hard to believe that anyone, including Dr Viljoen, can expect that schools will be able to function in a conventional way."

An overhaul of political and educational systems was needed if the country hoped to develop fully the talents of its children.

Dr Viljoen's statement that South Africa's education system was based on principles accepted worldwide was not true, Mr Andrew said.

"Nowhere else is skin colour the basic determinant of where you go to school."

Dr Viljoen's statement that no country could be governed by illiterates was correct.

"But neither can South Africa be successfully run by a government of political tortoises, dinosaurs and ostriches with their heads in the sand," Mr Andrew said.

"The simple fact is that the government continues to place the demands of its racial ideology before the educational needs of black children. Until that attitude changes, no nationalist has the right to claim that everything is being done to give black children the best possible educational opportunities."

UDF Official Discusses Conference

MB261237 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2102 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 25, SAPA — The fact that there is to be another education conference at the weekend means that the majority of the demands made at the last conference in December had not been met, Mr Ebrahim Rasool, an executive member of the United Democratic Front [UDF], said today.

Addressing students at the University of the Western Cape, Mr Rasool said of the 100 delegates from the western Cape, 53 would be students. The student delegates, he said, would be from eight rural areas, the Western Cape Students Council (WECSCO), tertiary institutions and joint SRC's [Student Representative Council] of schools in the western Cape.

Ten representatives from the Azanian Students Organisation (AZASO) would also be present at the conference on Friday and Saturday, he said. Other delegates will include those from the Western Cape Teachers Union Committee (CAHAC), United Women's Congress, Parents Action Committee (PAC), rural civic associations, Call of Islam, Western Cape Civic Association and parent organisations.

"It is clear from the national report," he added, that school buildings have not been erected or repaired, that the new deal with regard to examinations and promotions is not satisfactory, that troops are still in the townships.

"Furthermore, COSAS [Congress of South African Students] is still banned and SRC's are still banned from operating at schools, and although the state of emergency has been lifted, police still retain much of the power they had under the state of emergency.

"Clearly the majority and the most fundamental of our demands have not been met — and that is why 100 delegates from the western Cape will be going to the national consultative conference over the weekend," Mr Rasool said.

Talks on Development Held With Swaziland

MB251519 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1513 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 25, SAPA — Members of the Governments of Swaziland and South Africa held talks in Cape Town today on projects related to the development of the Komati/Lomati basins.

In a statement issued afterwards, the deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Ron Miller, said that the talks had been conducted in a friendly and constructive atmosphere and that the two delegations would report back to their respective governments.

Mr Miller chaired the discussions which included the minister of agricultural economics and water affairs, Mr Greyling Wentzel, and the deputy minister of finance, Mr Kent Durr.

The Swazi delegation was headed by Prince Khuzulwandle and included the minister of foreign affairs, Mr M.M.P. Mnisi, and the minister of finance, Mr B.S. Dhlamini.

Cape Town Council Decides Against Opening Beaches

MB251341 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1255 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 25, SAPA — The Cape Town divisional council today decided by one vote not to open its beaches to all races at this stage.

Instead, after a lengthy debate, the council accepted a motion from Mr A.L.J. Powell to refer the matter back to the works committee for further consideration and recommendations on crowd control and to canvass other municipalities for their views. Council will vote again on the issue after these steps have been taken.

Mr Neil Ross, who introduced the motion to open beaches, said 11 civic associations favoured the idea.

"It is an illustration that councillors are behind public opinion instead of leading public opinion," he said.

Pinetown Swimming Pool Opened to All Races

MB251328 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0838 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Pinetown, March 25, SAPA — The Pinetown Town Council last night decided to open the public swimming-pool in the Lahee Park suburb to all races.

The decision to open the town's whites-only pool to all race groups was a result of a recommendation by the finance and management chairman, Mr Ismail Patel.

Although the pool had been open to all races for special events, galas and diving competitions, it was not permanently multiracial.

The Lahee swimming pool is situated in a white area, but the town's existing by-laws do not have any racial restrictions concerning the pool.

Mr Patel has welcomed the decision. "The decision arrived at is in keeping with that of certain other local authorities which have come to realise that the solution to South Africa's problems lies in urgent reforms which should permeate through all three tiers of government," he said.

Kidds Beach Farmers Oppose Ciskei Resettlement

MB261204 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0024 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] East London, March 25, SAPA — Farmers in the Kidds Beach area have objected to the creation of a resettlement camp for former residents of Mooiplaas and want the government to take immediate action to prevent the development of further squatter camps in the area.

A spokesman for a firm of attorneys in East London said today an urgent application seeking an interdict preventing further resettlement in the area was being prepared on behalf of the farmers. It would be filed at the Grahamstown Supreme Court.

The Mooiplaas residents were moved this afternoon to Good Hope Farm, south of the Ciskei border in the Kidds Beach area. The farm is owned by the South African Development Trust.

The residents were moved at their own request to escape "harassment and intimidation" by opponents of Ciskei, according to South African officials.

The chairman of the East London Western District Farmers Association, Mr Andy Russell, predicted that the resettlement of large numbers of unemployed people in areas with no jobs or infrastructure could create serious problems for local farmers, some of whom had already suffered stock losses.

Mr Russell said: "What they are doing is creating rural squatter communities, it's an absolute nightmare, an impossible situation." He said theft of large livestock in the area averaged at least 10 head a month. Each animal cost at least R600, amounting to a total loss of R6000 month for members of the association.

"They could have tried to settle these people in the East London district where they will at least find employment," he said. Mr Russell said farmers also reported an increase in pineapple thefts.

The first secretary of the South African Embassy in Ciskei, Mr Kevin Brennan, said 30 families from Tuba village near Mooiplaas were moved. A further 70 people, including seven headmen and their families, were moved yesterday from the Bluewater police station to where they had fled.

Yesterday, the South African ambassador to Ciskei, Lieutenant-General A.J. van Deventer, said the move was the culmination of unrest in the area. He said the group being moved was harassed and intimidated by a "bad element of anti-Ciskeians" and were particularly perturbed by the murder of a headman last week.

Court Overturns Conviction of Cape Town Man

MB271045 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1029 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 27, SAPA — Ravensmead youth leader Trevor Wentzel, who has served more than a year of a five-year sentence on Robben Island for petrol-bombing, has had his appeal against conviction upheld in the Supreme Court, Cape Town.

Mr Wentzel, 25, was detained in September 1984 in connection with a petrol bomb attack on the house of Ravensmead Labour Party MP Mr Hansie Christians.

Mr Wentzel, chairman of the Ravensmead Youth and Student Organisation, was convicted by a Simons Town Regional Court under the Internal Security Act on January 9 last year. He was found to have participated in a petrol bomb attack on Mr Christian's house on August 21, 1984, the night before the first tri-cameral Parliament elections. Mr Wentzel was refused bail while on trial and after conviction.

Mr Dulla Omar, for Mr Wentzel, said his client had intended to set tyres alight with petrol. A group of youths demanded the petrol be used to make petrol bombs. Mr Wentzel argued with them and warned that such an action would be "political suicide," but to no avail, Mr Omar said. He left the container of petrol at his feet, fearing that too much resistance would brand him a "sell-out." Mr Omar said this could not constitute the "aiding and making" of a petrol bomb.

"The issue is that the appellant tried to dissuade people from making petrol bombs. This is a case where the court should exercise mercy and come to the assistance of someone who tried to stop the bombings. At the least, a large portion of his sentence should have been suspended."

Mr P.J. van der Merwe, for the state, said the fact remained that Mr Wentzel had supplied the petrol. The court upheld Mr Wentzel's appeal and overturned his conviction. Mr Justice Lategan and Mr Justice de Kock presided.

Motlana on Withdrawal From London Conference

MB251659 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 25 Mar 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] What was billed as an academic conference here in Britain, organized by the Wilton Park Institute, has fallen apart. It was designed to bring together all sides in South Africa, including Chief Buthelezi's Inkatha Zulu movement, the banned ANC, and civic and community leaders.

Among those invited was Dr Nthato Motlana, leader of the Soweto Civic Association. He and a number of other delegates arrived in London, but pulled out of the conference at the last minute. Julian Marshall asked Dr Motlana why they had done that.

[Begin recording][Motlana] Because a British newspaper carried a front-page story suggesting that the British Governemnt had organized this conference in order to avoid a bloodbath back home, and that we would come here to negotiate and that of course worried us because we were under the impression that we had been invited here in our individual capacities to discuss the crisis back home, not to negotiate on anybody's behalf. Negotiation implies attendance by people who have a mandate from their different organizations and I had a position to take immediately. We started asking questions. The first question we asked was: Who had sponsored this conference? Who were the people who were invited? And so on and so forth.

[Marshall] I understand that this morning you had the chance to see Minister of State in the Foreign Office Lynda Chalker. Did she answer any of these questions satisfactorily to you?

[Motlana] No, she did not. But I have been in touch with the conference organizers, who assured me that somebody must have leaked a story in order to wreck the conference because although the Wilton Park center is part of the Commonwealth and Foreign Office, it is an independent organization, and this is what we'd gathered when we left home, that this was an independent academic institution which was sponsoring. We probably would have come, even if we knew that the British Government was behind the organization, but no, we felt that there had not been sufficient disclosure about who was involved, who would be invited and so on and so on.

[Marshall] Do you regret now, in retrospect, having stayed away from the conference? Do you think that you were perhaps precipitous to pull out?

[Motlana] No, I don't think so. I would have found it difficult to participate in this conference if Inkatha was to attend and if the ANC was excluded. I know now that in fact the ANC was invited, did accept although there seems to be some dispute about whether in fact they accepted to come. I would have attended even if the South African Government had attended, particularly if they attended in the presence of the ANC, because I think the idea that South Africa, the South African Government at least, will not attend a conference to which the ANC is invited is all damn nonsense. I had hoped that we would have representatives of both organizations.

[Marshall] Why is Inkatha so unacceptable to groups such as your own?

[Motlana] Because Inkatha is seen as part of the problem. The president of Inkatha, a charismatic leader respected in some quarters, is also chief minister of a bantustan called KwaZulu.

We find it difficult to accept that people who have allowed themselves to be part of this can be part of the liberation struggle.

Unbanned Manuel Calls for Unbanning of ANC

MB261237 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1045 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cape Town, March 26, SAPA — Mr Trevor Manuel, Western Cape secretary of the United Democratic Front, has called on the government to unban the African National Congress.

In his first interview since Mr Louis le Grange, the minister of law and order, lifted the banning orders on him and Mr Jacoob Issel yesterday, Mr Manuel vowed to become more deeply involved in the fight to end apartheid and called for the release of all political prisoners and for all political exiles to be allowed to return unconditionally.

"Of course I am happy that the order has been lifted. Now I will become deeper involved in the fight to end apartheid. We challenged the state and won."

ANC Condemns U.S. Actions Against Libya, Angola

MB261756 Dakar PANA in English 1541 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Lusaka, 26 March (PANA) — The African National Congress (ANC) joins all just, democratic forces of the world in condemning a series of acts of provocation that have for sometime now been carried out by the Reagan administration against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

A press release from the ANC International Department issued to PANA today in Lusaka said it is against the U.S. provocations that led to clashes between the air and naval forces of the two countries on Tuesday in the Gulf of Sidra, Mediterranean Coast. This is not only an act of aggression against Libya, but also a serious threat to peace, the release said.

The release said these acts of provocation by the U.S. against Libya are clearly part of its policy of state terrorism against countries that refuse to bow to its imperialist diktat, in defence of their sovereignty and national independence.

In pursuance of this policy, the Reagan administration is currently waging an undeclared war against the Republic of Nicaragua by training and arming counter-revolutionary bands in this Central American country, whose aim is to overthrow its legitimate governments, the release added.

The release said in this campaign of global confrontation with the world progressive forces, the Reagan administration sponsored and aligned itself with the most reactionary forces of fascism, including the apartheid regime in South Africa. A clear demonstration of this, the release said, is the U.S. decision to give increased military assistance to the UNITA bandit gangs in Angola, led by Jonas Savimbi, whom they have just given a red carpet treatment. As is well-known, the Savimbi gang is the South Africa regime's chief instrument of destabilisation against Angola, the release said.

PFP To Discuss 'Increasingly Ugly, Violent Unrest

MB261655 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1644 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 26, SAPA — The Progressive Federal Party's [PFP] parliamentary caucus will discuss reports of an "increasingly ugly and violent unrest situation," the party's leader, Mr Colin Eglin, said this morning.

He said in a statement before the meeting that PFP MP's would give "special attention" to the reports and that prior to the meeting peninsula MP's, MPC's [member of provincial councils] and city councillors would also meet to report on "the deteriorating situation on the peninsula."

Mr Eglin said he was deeply concerned at the "gravity of the situation," which went far beyond sporadic unrest and violence.

"By failing to deal in a bold and imaginative way with the fundamental problems that are tearing our society apart, the government is putting the future of this country at risk," he said.

"If Mr Botha and his cabinet continue to fiddle and dither while leaving it to Minister Louis le Grange's men to deal with the situation through strong-arm police tactics, South Africa will soon find itself in a Lebanese situation, both as far as the level of violence and the collapse of normal civil administration is concerned.

"It is time the government pulled itself together and realised that the situation cannot be resolved either by repression or coercion." It could only be resolved through urgent and fundamental structural change away from apartheid towards a new non-racial and democratic South Africa, Mr Eglin said.

SAAWU, AZAPO Activists Detained in Mooiplaas

MB261650 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1643 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] King Williams Town, Mar 26, SAPA — The East London branch organiser of the South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU), Mr Sicelo Ndevu, was last weekend detained by the security police.

Mr Ndevu was alleged to have been detained in a meeting in Mooiplaas on Saturday. Mr Ndevus' detention was confirmed by the police liaison officer in the border area, Lieutenant Dot van der Vyver today.

Lt van der Vyver said the SAAWU activist was detained under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act. The SAAWU branch secretary, Mr Boyce Melitafa, in a statement today said his union calls upon the police to release Mr Ndevu and those who were arrested with him while attending the launch of the Mooiplaas Resident Association. Mr Melitafa said the meeting was peaceful and legal since the people of Mooiplaas obtained a permit to hold that meeting.

"SAAWU in the meantime is looking at some possibilities of taking some further steps if Mr Ndevu and others are not released with immediate effect. SAAWU also announces that while Mr Ndevu is being held it has made good progress on duties supposed to have been carried out by him. In that it has won May Day (International Labour Day) as a paid day and unconditional public holiday when an agreement was entered into between the chloride factory and SAAWU in East London," Mr Melitafa added.

Also detained in King Williams Town is the Ginsberg leadership of the Azanian Peoples Organisation (AZAPO).

They are Mr Nazimbu Hlanganizo, Mr Lunga Lefume, Mr Sekelezi Duma, Mr Ndoda Keyisi, Mr Mzwabantu Lumkwana, Mr Vusumuzi Ntenteni and Mr Mcedisi Ngoliyi.

Detained with them is the president of the Ginsberg Youth Organisation, Mr Dickson Matika. The eight are also being held under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act.

Six AZAPO Members Released

MB261327 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1317 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 26, SAPA — Six of eleven [as received] Azanian People's Organistion [AZAPO] members detained this week have been released, an AZAPO spokesman said in Johannesburg today.

Mr George Wauchope and Mr Pandelani Nefolovhodwe — who were released in Tzaneen yesterday — had been so severely assaulted they "cannot sleep or even sit down," the spokesman told SAPA.

He said Mr Wauchope and Mr Nefolovodhwe were detained by Lebowa police on Sunday at Namakgale after addressing a "Heroes Day" — March 21 — meeting.

The four AZAPO activists released this morning from Pietersburg are: Mr Phosakuwa Mashele, Mr Jake Mathabathe, Mr Mmutle Pashe and Mr Oupa Maleka.

Police in Pretoria confirmed five AZAPO activists were being detained under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act. They are Lunga Lefume, Mcedisi Ngoloyi, Thomas Duma, Vusumuzi Ntenteni and Nazimbu Hlaganizo.

'Good Response' to Zulu Recruiting Drive Expected

MB251344 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1114 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, March 25, SAPA — The army is expecting a good response to a recruiting drive it has launched for Zulus to join 121 Battalion based at Mtubatuba. The unit, which numbers between 500 and 600 at present, wants up to 300 recruits.

The battalion has served on the SWA/Namibia border on numerous occasions and acquitted itself well, said Col Louis Lamprecht, liaison officer at Natal command in Durban.

Announcing the recruiting drive yesterday, the colonel said: "We are expecting a flood of applications. News of our drive has already spread by word of mouth." He said among reasons for expecting an enthusiastic response was that the Zulu had always been a proud warrior. Widespread unemployment was another factor.

In 1981 the unit moved from Jozini military base to Mtubatuba where it is stationed in the Dukuduku forest.

Col Lamprecht said there were no black officers in the battalion at this stage, but suitably qualified recruits could do an officers course.

Nuclear Research Facility To Be Established

MB251521 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1500 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] House of Assembly, Mar 25, SAPA — A proposed nuclear research facility to be established at the Gouritz River mouth between Mossel Bay and Port Elizabeth would be open to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] if IAEA guarantees were required, the minister of mineral and energy affairs, Mr Danie Steyn, said today.

Answering a question by Mr Roger Hulley (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] Constantia), Mr Steyn said no final decision had been taken on what sort of facility would be erected. Financial circumstances had delayed the project and at present only the infrastructure was being provided.

If the activities to be conducted at the facility were of such a nature that it required IAEA guarantees, the centre would be open to inspection by the agency.

Mr Steyn said an environmental impact assessment of the project had been carried out and studies were continuing in cooperation with consultants and universities. The results would be made available to the public when the studies were completed.

MEDUNSA To Observe Normal Term Opening, Closing

MB251346 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1253 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 25, SAPA — The Medical University of Southern Africa (MEDUNSA) — troubled by a mass stayaway of black students — will remain open for normal activities until the end of term on Thursday and will reopen in the normal way on April 7.

This was one of the decisions taken by the university's council at a special meeting today, following a boycott of classes by black students after a supreme court ruling last week that two white undergraduate students whose registrations were cancelled last month, be reinstated at the university.

In a statement today the council listed the decisions it had taken. They are:

— The council reiterates its policy that it is a university which is open to all irrespective of race, colour or creed, who are eager and able to study at MEDUNSA,
— It recognises that the university was primarily created to provide educational opportunities for sections of the population which had not been adequately provided for in the past, and that suitable applicants from those communities should receive priority in the admission procedure,
— However, applicants from other sections of the community will be considered, provided they have a good claim for admission to this university and their acceptance does not involve excluding suitable applicants from the communities for whom the university was primarily created,
— The university remains open for normal activities until the end of term on March 27 and will reopen in the normal way on April 7. It will be expected of all students who wish to proceed with their studies, and who wish to conform with training requirements in order to obtain their degrees, to attend classes in the normal way and fully apply themselves to their studies, as is required of students at any university.

It was council's wish and intention that everything possible be done to normalise the situation at MEDUNSA, it said.

Moderate Students Alliance on Wits Violence

MB251330 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0843 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 25, SAPA — The violence at the University of Witwatersrand last week was a natural result of the university administrations policy of tolerating violence, intimidation and disorderly behaviour, the Students Moderate Alliance (SMA) said in a statement today.

Reacting to the violence on the campus the SMA said: "Unless decisive and immediate action is taken by the university to stamp out campus hooliganism, no student will be safe from the anger of the radical students."

The university had banned a meeting planned by the SMA for today and "by so doing has admitted that it has lost control of the situation on campus."

It also showed that university was no longer able to protect the rights of students or the safety of guests from mob actions.

The SMA had always been supportive of the principle of free speech on campus, the statement added.

"We call on the university administration to restore academic freedom and to take the necessary steps to protect students' rights on campus," it said.

The organisation would hold a meeting at the university today with "a display aimed at exposing the violence and intimidation of black and white students over the last week," the statement added.

20,446 Black Students Attend White Universities

MB251831 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1825 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] House of Assembly, Mar 25, SAPA — Last year 20,446 black students were enrolled at universities for whites, the minister of education and culture, Mr Piet Clase, said today in reply to a question from Mr Horace van Rensburg (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] Bryanston).

Unrest Damages Total 138 Million Rands

MB261200 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Unrest damage in South Africa has been estimated at 138 million rands for the period September 1984 until the present. This was revealed in a special paper released by the Institute of Strategic Studies at the University of Pretoria. The paper said insurance claims in the same period have also soared and amounted to 65 million by February 1986. Reflecting on ANC terror activity during 1985, the paper notes that about one-third of the incidents were directed at what he described as economic targets, such as business premises and electrical substations.

22 Serving Life Sentences for Security Offenses

MB251339 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1321 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] House of Assembly, Mar 25, SAPA — Twenty-two people were serving life sentences for offences against the security of the state as of March 12 this year, the minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, said today in reply to a question by Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] Houghton).

Bophuthatswana Death Toll Rises to 11

MB270640 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0628 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — The death toll in the bloody confrontation between the Bophuthatswana police and a large crowd holding a protest meeting in Winterveld yesterday is 11.

More than 22 people suffered gunshot wounds at "City Rocks" football ground in the giant squatter area when the police opened fire after "ordering the crowd to disperse." Some of the injured were said to be in a coma at Ga-Rankuwa hospital, raising fears that the death toll would go up again.

Colonel M.A. Molope, the district commandant of the Bophuthatswana Police in the Odi region, confirmed that about 10 people were killed and one died later in hospital, after police opened fire on the crowd "which pelted us with stones and petrol bombs after we told them to disperse."

Some 200 people surrounded by the police at the ground were waiting to be taken to the police station and the hospital when a local news team arrived at the scene of the clash. An ambulance and police vehicles took turns ferrying the people.

Pools of blood at the ground bore mute testimony to the violent confrontation which had taken place earlier. Discarded piles of shoes and clothing littered the football field where the Winterveld residents had started gathering at about 9am yesterday.

Police displayed rocks, stones and petrol bombs which they said were confiscated from some of the people.

Residents say the meeting was called to protest against their possible eviction if they refused to join vigilante groups. They said the formation of the vigilantes was in response to a call by Bophuthatswana President Dr Lucas Mangope on the people to organise themselves against the troublemakers among the youth.

However, police said the meeting was held to demand the release of political prisoners and showed members of the press at the scene banners to support this.

Shortly after the killings, the police were seen flogging four youths near the main road. Others carrying rifles, truncheons and sjamboks maintained vigilance in the area.

Two trucks were stoned and set alight in the earlier confrontation. Police said several schools were also stoned end burnt. Some workers stayed away from work while others were prevented from moving out of the township to attend the meeting.

Conflicting Stories on Shootings

MB261741 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1739 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Mmabatho, March 26, SAPA — At least ten people were shot dead when Bophuthatswana police opened fire on a crowd of between five and ten thousand people on a soccer field in Winterveld near Pretoria today, according to a spokesman for the Bophuthatswana police. At least 70 people were injured in the shootings and treated in local clinics and hospitals, according to a resident interviewed by SAPA's correspondent in Mmabatho.

Col David George, spokesman for the Bophuthatswana police, said a large crowd gathered at the Winterveld football ground this morning waiting "to be addressed by a speaker who never arrived."

Police ordered the crowd to disperse as the meeting was illegal, he said. The crowd then began to throw stones at the police and members of the defence force. Security forces then opened fire to defend themselves.

A spokesman for the Winterveld Action Committee gave a different account of the meeting. He said the district police commander, Col M.A. Molope, addressed the meeting today after residents had asked for talks with him to discuss their grievances.

"Since Friday the police have been driving around the area and taking youths from their houses," the spokesman said. "Parents stayed away from work today so that they could go to the meeting and find out why their children were arrested."

Another resident said Col Molope told the crowd during his address that those arrested would be released by 4pm today. However, before the meeting ended an apparent incident of stone throwing sparked off the shootings. After the meeting dispersed, security forces chased residents into their houses and detained many youngsters, he added.

Residents counted twenty two bodies after the meeting dispersed, he said.

Attempts to contact a police spokesman for comment on the residents' account of the meeting are continuing.

Winterveld is a large squatter settlement with a population of about 1 million people 100km north of Pretoria.

Mangope Orders Inquiry

MB271015 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope has ordered an inquiry into the shootings at Winterveld. State Affairs Minister Rowan Cronje says Justice E.A.T. Smith has been appointed as a 1-man commission and will look into the incident as a matter of urgency.

Meanwhile, a Bophuthatswana police spokesman has confirmed 11 people were killed and 2,500 arrested in the shootings yesterday. The number of injured is still being ascertained. The spokesman says the situation in Winterveld this morning is quiet but tense after sporadic stone throwing last night.

Two French Doctors Whipped

MB271150 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1122 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — Two French doctors were arrested, sjambokked and severely beaten by Bophuthatswana policemen in Winterveld yesterday, the two claimed today.

The doctors, a man and a woman, had rushed to the scene at the sound of gunshots, they told reporters. Dr Vincent Faucherre and his colleague, a 29-year-old woman who does not wish to be named, were detained for almost 12 hours before being released at 11pm.

The woman alleges that when she ran to held Dr Faucherre, who was being sjambokked by several policemen, she was punched in the jaw and whipped on the chest and back. Both doctors have raw weals on their bodies from the beatings.

They alleged they were called communists and terrorists by the policemen. Both doctors, members of the Medecin du Monde, an organisation which sends doctors to needy areas around the world, were working in a Winterveld Clinic at the time of the shootings.

Dr Faucherre said today they had rushed to the scene and saw policemen beating women trying to get away from them.

"I thought the sight of a white doctor would make the people stop what they were doing, but it didn't help," he said. Instead they grabbed Dr Faucherre, held him and sjambokked him repeatedly. The French Embassy would not comment on the situation this morning.

Crossroads Vigilante: Police Involved in Attack

MB241833 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1744 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 25, SAPA — One of the "witdoek" [white cloth] vigilantes who took part in Thursday night's abortive attack on New Crossroads and Nyanga which left seven vigilantes dead, has made startling allegations of police involvement in the battle.

Mr Nkosana Mdini, who is "over 60 years old", was taken prisoner by New Crossroads residents at the height of the fighting and has since been held at a "safe house" in a township.

Mr Mdini also alleged Old Crossroads leader, Mr Johnson Nxobongwana, and his chief lieutenant, Mr Sam Mdima, organised the raid.

"After work on Thursday, Mdima went around with a loudspeaker and called on all men of my age and younger to bring their weapons and go to Mr Nxobongwana's office. He said that anybody who did not go would be killed or burnt in his shanty," he alleged. "Some of the men had guns."

At Mr Nxobongwana's office, the men — Mr Mdini said there were about 300 "witdoeke" (white cloths) — were told to wear white strips of cloth around their heads "so we could know each other," and were ordered to go with the three New Crossroads committee members to "fetch their belongings."

The group were transported and walked to the Lansdowne Road entrance to Nyanga and New Crossroads, where, he said, they met two police armoured vehicles.

"The one police vehicle moved with a truck filled with men and with the three men from New Crossroads, and the other vehicle moved slowly about 20 yards in front of those of us who were walking," he alleged. Soon after, shooting broke out "which seemed to be aimed at us" and the police vehicle disappeared. He ran for cover and was then taken prisoner.

He also alleged previous fighting between so-called "fathers" and "comrades" had been organised at the instigation of Mr Nxobongwana.

"People have been commanded on several occasions to go and attack."

Mr Mdini was not prepared to make a statement to the police as he was "scared". He would not return to Crossroads because he was "scared of being killed," and "the community of New Crossroads will look after me." He said he had been well-treated since his capture and "I was not beaten, there was no bad treatment."

A police liaison officer for the Western Cape, Lieutenant Attie Laubscher, said today "if Mr Mdini is prepared to supply us with the facts, we can investigate these allegations.

"If, however, vague allegations are made and the police are not given the opportunity to test these allegations, it places the South African Police at a great disadvantage."

In a joint statement, the Cape Youth Congress, the United Womens Congress and the Western Cape Civic Association said they held no ill-feelings towards the "witdoeke."

Members of the United Democratic Front-Affiliated organisations have been the main targets of attacks by supporters of conservative committe members and community councillors.

"Mr Nxobongwana, through his actions, has brought grief to the families of these seven men who died away from their homes; he is using their ignorance for his own political purposes and we strongly regret any injuries or deaths which may have been suffered.

"We have to defend our lives and our property against these attacks, and nobody can be held responsible for the seven deaths — it was a war of resistance waged by the whole community, fathers, mothers and the youth."

Three Killed in Durban Townships 26 Mar

MB270722 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0702 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, March 27, SAPA — Two men, one a Natal newspaper company driver, died when they were attacked and burned, and a child was stabbed to death as violent unrest continued in the black townships of Durban yesterday.

At Chesterville, Mr Matthew Makanya, 28, who worked for Allied Publishing, now part of the Natal Newspapers Company, was attacked after he had apparently taken part in a vigilante exercise.

He and members of a group known as the A-Team had allegedly been trying to round up a group of high school pupils aged between 16 and 20 allegedly responsible for unrest in the area. The schoolchidren later allegedly pulled Mr Makanya from a bus and he was stabbed to death with pangas and broken bottles.

His body was then allegedly taken to a road near the Chesterville High School where a tyre was placed around it, doused with petrol and set alight.

At Ntuzuma, near KwaMashu, another man was found burned to death and a child was stabbed to death.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 26 Mar

MB261714 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1712 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 26, SAPA — The following is the 7pm unrest situation report from the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:

"One of the men seriously injured in an attack on a liquor store on KwaZakele, (eastern province) this morning has died in hospital.

"In another incident a group of blacks threw petrol bombs at policemen's homes. Tearsmoke and shotguns were used to disperse the mob.

"Shotguns were also used to disperse a gorup of intimidators who were attempting to intimidate a member of the SAP (South African Police).

"At Tembisa on the east Rand, arsonists set fire to a delivery vehicle.

"At Ntuzuma in Natal, arsonists set fire to a private home.

"A child was found stabbed to death and another seriously injured.

"A black man was burned to death with a tyre around his neck.

"One black man was seriously injured at Mooiplaas, eastern Province, when his house was set alight by arsonists.

"In Soweto, Johannesburg, a black man was slightly wounded and arrested by the police after an attack and attempted looting of a delivery vehicle.

"A black man was slightly injured after arsonists had set a bakery alight.

"In another incident, members of the South African Defence Force fired tearsmoke to disperse a mob after a stonethrowing attack on their vehicle."

"At Motherwell, eastern province, a delivery vehicle was set alight.

"At Old Crossroads, western province, stonethrowing attackers on police vehicles were dispersed with tearsmoke.

"A member of the SAP was slightly injured during a stonethrowing attack on a SAP vehicle. The mob was dispersed with shotgun fire."

Ends report.

Early 27 Mar

MB270617 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0612 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — Following is SAP situation report on overnight unrest.

"The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

"At KwaZakele near PE, [Port Elizabeth] petrol-bombs were hurled at SAP vehicles on a number of occasions and at one stage at a policeman's private vehicle.

"Tear smoke and shotgun fire were used to disperse the mobs during some of these incidents. One black man was wounded and arrested and another arrested. Two policeman's homes were petrol-bombed. One of the members used revolver and shotgun fire to defend his home. No injuries were reported.

"At New Brighton, a councillor was slightly injured when his vehicle was stoned. The post office was slightly damaged when it was petrol-bombed.

"At Old Crossroads in the WP [western province], the SAP used shotgun fire when a private vehicle was petrol-bombed. Two men were fatally wounded and another two wounded. A coloured man was injured by the mob.

"At Kayalitsha a private vehicle was extensively damaged by fire. At Chesterville in Port Natal a private vehicle was set on fire. The SAP used shotgun fire and tear smoke to disperse the mob. A private home was extensively damaged by arsonists.

"At Loza in the eastern province, the SAP fired birdshot when a private home was stoned. No injuries were reported. In the same area, two private vehicles and a delivery vehicle were stoned.

"At Tembisa on the east Rand a private home was damaged by a petrol-bomb."

Ends report.

Commentary Criticizes Witwatersrand U. Incident

MB270605 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] For an educational institution which has always prided itself on being a standard bearer of the liberal tradition, the University of the Witwatersrand has a campus with a remarkably consistent history of intolerance towards those who disagree with the prevailing leftist views.

The practice of raucously shouting down visiting speakers became popular in the early seventies. In the last few years, however, its undertones of intimidation and even violence have grown in intensity — to be openly manifested when a UNITA delegation visited the campus at the invitation of a student movement last week. Not only were the UNITA members prevented from speaking, so threatening was the behaviour that they were asked to leave the campus for their own safety.

By implication, the university authorities found themselves unable or unwilling to guarantee the safety even of invited guests on the campus, an impression strengthened by the refusal of a request to extend another invitation on the grounds that feelings were running high in the present political climate.

So far there has been no attempt to take disciplinary steps against the culprits in the UNITA affair.

A statement by the administrtion, emphasising its commitment to freedom of speech and deploring the treatment of the visitors, belies its own actions. The simple fact is that it is permitting a situation to continue where that freedom is not maintained on the campus.

Freedom of speech — the freedom to state views that may be altogether at variance with those of others — is fundamental to the concept of a university. Without that freedom its role in serving as a forum for the increase of knowledge and insight through unfettered exchanges of information and views becomes a farce. Without such freedom it is not fulfilling its task of training students to examine all views and make their own judgments as objectively as possible.

The authorities at the University of the Witwatersrand might well ask themselves how seriously they do in fact take this criterion. It is not a question of how strongly some of the students might feel about UNITA or about anything else.

The fundamental value that defines an institution as being a university — freedom of speech — is denied when the opposite side may not be heard.

The University of the Witwatersrand, like all other such institutions in the country, receives enormous state subsidies to produce the leaders and highly qualified people who will direct this country's affairs in years to come. If they are to do so with wisdom, compassion, and foresight, they cannot be denied the opportunity as students to explore every sphere of knowledge and examine every point of view.

When a university surrenders its students to the intellectual straitjacket created by the intimidatory tactics of the intolerant, it is failing in its most essential purpose.

DAILY REPORT

FBIS

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 MARCH 1986

Libya

Commenting on the U.S. decision to terminate the 6th Fleet's exercises off the Libyan coast, Tripoli television noted JANA's political editor's view that U.S. officials were "compelled" to withdraw the 6th Fleet because Libya's "firmness" and "brave defiance" had led to an "acute military confrontation which the Americans did not take into account." The political editor also maintained that support for Libya throughout the world had a "decisive effect" in forcing the cancellation of the U.S. exercises. Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio likewise spoke of a "glittering victory" in the Gulf of Sidra, claiming that the Libyans were able to "match" the United States, "which they fought and triumphed over."

The radio again exhorted the Arab masses to destroy U.S. interests and targets in the Arab world, adding that no American in the region is an innocent visitor or a person without a "spying or sabotage mission." The radio also broadcast a support message to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi from the Tunisian "revolutionary force," which declared its readiness to form "suicide squads."

As for Libyan losses in the U.S. attacks, TANJUG cited an eyewitness account that at least 8 Libyans were killed when their missile boat was hit, while JANA noted a Spanish press report that 16 Libyan sailors were rescued by a Spanish oil tanker.

Lebanon

A Lebanese Forces Executive Committee statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio accused the Syrian Army of participating in recent artillery attacks on Christian areas, causing "dozens" of casualties. The committee linked this military escalation with the series of car-bomb explosions in Christian districts. The statement reaffirmed the Lebanese Forces' willingness to take part in a cease-fire and urged Arab states to act quickly to stop Syrian military activity in Lebanon. The Lebanese Forces' accusations followed further shelling across combat lines in the Al-Matn area, according to Beirut radio.

In Israel's security zone, an army of southern Lebanon soldier was killed by a roadside bomb 28 March, Jerusalem radio reported. A PLO spokesman announced earlier that 10 people were killed and 12 were injured in the 27 March Israeli air raid on Fatah targets near Sidon, Radio Monte Carlo noted. Fatah claimed responsibility for the katyusha attack on Qiryat Shemona that morning, according to AFP.

For Israel's part, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres stated that the air raid was part of Israel's campaign to prevent incidents like the attack on Qiryat Shemona, IDF radio reported. Commenting on the raid, Jerusalem radio said that nearly 1,000 "terrorists" from various Palestinian organizations have returned to the Sidon area.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian air defenses shot down three Iraqi MIG-23's when Iraqi aircraft attacked a "huge" Iranian naval convoy crossing the Gulf 27 March, Iran announced in a war report broadcast by Tehran television. Although the report maintained that the convoy arrived safely at its destination on the Al-Faw peninsula, an Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio maintained that Iraqi planes "wiped out" the convoy, which consisted of seven large supply ships escorted by nine other boats. The Iraqi communique also announced Iraqi air raids on the Ganaveh oil terminal and on three Iranian military camps.

In another communique broadcast by the radio, the Iraqi command claimed successes on the northern front, asserting that Iraqi troops recaptured 14 "strategic" mountain peaks from the Iranians in a "stormy, sweeping attack" 27-28 March.

Israel-Egypt: Tabah Talks

No progress was made in the latest round of Tabah talks as the Egyptians went back on a previous agreement and hardened their position, Jerusalem radio reported. Nevertheless, Israeli delegation leader Avraham Tamir stressed that the situation is not critical, asserting that it "should not be regarded as a catastrophe" if the dispute is referred to the Inner Cabinet following the next round of talks in Cairo, according to *HA'ARETZ*.

Algerian-Soviet Relations

Reporting on Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid's talks with CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, Algiers radio noted that the two sides signed a long-term program for economic, trade, scientific, and technical cooperation, adding that they also expressed satisfaction with the "excellent" state of bilateral relations. In related remarks broadcast by the radio, the Algerian foreign minister disclosed that military issues were discussed in the talks on bilateral relations.

The Qatari paper *AL-RAYAH* reported earlier that Algeria is seeking to strengthen its air defenses by purchasing modern Soviet SAM's as well as a sophisticated French radar system, according to QNA.

PLO-Jordan

Jordanian authorities have denied a report by the Kuwaiti paper *AL-ANBA' that Jordan has asked the PLO to close its main* offices in Amman, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir disclosed in a statement cited by Radio Monte Carlo. Al-Wazir said Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i has assured him that the *AL-ANBA'* story was unfounded.

Pakistan-DRA

The Soviet Union has given "very positive signs" of readiness to negotiate a troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq stated in a *LE MONDE* interview cited by AFP. Meanwhile, a bomb explosion in a Peshawar refugee hostel killed or wounded 21 people, according to AFP, which noted that Pakistani police believe DRA secret agents were responsible. In another development, the Pakistani Foreign Office protested to the DRA over recent cross-border artillery fire which injured nine people, Karachi radio noted.

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Palestinian Front Condemns U.S. 'Aggression'

JN271412 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] In Damascus, the Palestinian Popular struggle Front has condemned the sinful aggression against Libya and called on all Arab states to shoulder their national pan-Arab responsibilities and to boycott U.S. imperialism, which constitutes a center for tension that might ignite a comprehensive war in the region and threatens the security of the Mediterranean basin states.

Additional on Arab League Council Tunis Session

Council Discusses Others' Israeli Ties

LD271339 Rabat MAP in English 1235 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis, March 27 (IPS-MAP) -- The Political Committee of the Arab League Council meeting here took up the question of the league's response to several nations which recently opened diplomatic ties with Israel.

In a session late Tuesday [25 March] the council considered Spain's, the Ivory Coast's and Sri Lanka's ties to Israel, among other issues.

The resolution on Spain, which established diplomatic relations with Israel Jan. 17, recommends that Arab governments "should undertake bilateral contacts to push Spain to cut back its relations with Israel in the political, economic and cultural fields".

The committee recommended the Arab League general secretariat prepare a report on "future developments in the Spanish stand towards issues and particularly the Palestinian" issue.

Last week Spain announced it would grant diplomatic status to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representatives in Madrid.

The committee, however, did not take up a proposal to reduce the level of diplomatic representation between Arab states and Spain and to put an end to new Arab investments there, Arab League sources told IPS.

The committee's resolutin about the Ivory Coast's decision to re-establish diplomatic ties with Israel said the issue will be conveyed to the joint Arab-African ministerial conference due to be held later this year.

The council also said that the Ivory Coast's decision was a "retraction" from commitments laid out in the first Arab-African summit held in Cairo in March 1977.

The resolution lauded the decision adopted by the recent ministerial council of the Organisation of African Unity "reiterating the pledge of African countries not to establish or resume diplomatic relations with Israel "and its "natural and absolute partner" South Africa.

Six African countries have resumed diplomatic ties with Israel since the African decision to boycott it in the wake of the 1973 Arab-Israeli war. These are: Botswana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Malawi, Rwanda and Zaire.

The committee also stressed the need to reactivate Arab-European dialogue, but refused a proposal to increase the representation in the Arab-European dialogue commission to a ministerial level, the same sources said.

The budget deficit of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) was also discussed in the committee's meetng.

Arab countries were asked to increase their contributions in the agncy to reduce its deficit but stressed that the whole international community bears responsibility for the Palestinian refugees.

The Arab League Council also adopted two resolutions strongly condemning the United States and Iran over their "military agressions" against Libya and Iraq respectively. The council is due to conclude its session this Thursday.

Klibi Asked To Set Up Arab Summit

LD271349 Rabat MAP in English 1240 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis, March 27 (MAP) — The Arab League ministerial council mandated the league's Secretary General Chadli Klibi with conducting the necessary contacts for the holding of an Arab summit, sources close to the council reported on Wednesday [26 March].

The decision was made at the request of Kuwait during a limited meeting held in the Tunisian capital Monday evening in parallel to the 85th session of the league's council.

During this meeting that was attended by the foreign ministers of Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Tunisia, Kuwait also called for the implementation of the Arab defense pact against Iran.

The ministerial council has thus entrusted Chadli Klibi with getting in touch with all Arab heads of state and setting the venue of this summit "the only way to find solutions to the problems confronting the Arab world", the same sources specified.

Relatedly, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faisal said that Saudi Arabia does not object to the holding of an Arab summit if it is to examine precise items and if there is an Arab "consensus" on the convening of such a summit.

In a statement he made Wednesday before leaving Tunis where he partook in the Arab League's council, Prince Al-Faisal stressed the necessity to thouroughly prepare for this conference so that it succeeds "not at 80 percent but at 100 percent to materialize inter-Arab solidarity and define a joint Arab stance as was the case during the Fes summit".

Council Ends Session

LD280350 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Arab League Council ended its work in Tunisia today. An official spokesman for the General Secretariat of the Arab League said that this session had acquired a special importance in view of the nature of the issues on its agenda and the seriousness of the developments in the Arab arena since the last session.

While the council reviewed these issues and developments, it discussed the serious developments in the war between Iraq and Iran as a result of the large-scale Iranian attack against Iraq that has led to the occupation of more Arab land. In this context, the council confirmed the solidarity of the Arab states with Iraq in the legitimate defense of its land and pointed to the dangers this attack poses to security and stability in the Arab Gulf region and to international peace and security in general. It renewed its call on Iran to negotiate and respond to international resolutions and initiatives.

The council considered the latest U.S. aggression against Libya and strongly condemned it, expressing its complete solidarity with the Libyan people. It also called on the United States to immediately halt its aggression and all military operations against Libya. The council decided to remain in permanent session and asked the Arab League secretary general to present a report on any important developments so that the necessary steps can be taken. The council discussed the latest events in southern lebanon as a result of the continuation of the Israeli occupation and the escalation of its terrorist aggressions. It also reviewed developments in the Palestinian arena, all of which showed the Israeli insistence on blocking all peace efforts and the affirmation of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people. The council denounced the invasion of the Al-Aqsa Mosque courtyard by members of the Israeli Knesset and praised the struggle of the Palestinian people in the occupied homeland.

In a speech at the end of the session, Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, confirmed that the 85th session was extremely important because of the attendance of a large number of ministers who had shown great interest in the work of this session. He pointed out that although those efforts bore no fruit in relation to some of the issues which were deliberated, they mark positive efforts which brought about the consolidation of joint Arab action.

Qaddumi Says Spain's PLO Decision 'Misleading'

JN271952 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO political department, has said that during his recent visit to Tunis, the Spanish foreign minister tried to sell the Arabs hollow talk about giving the PLO office in Madrid diplomatic status. In response to a question by KUNA the day before yesterday on his opinion of what the Spanish foreign minister said regarding his government's decision to give the PLO office in Madrid diplomatic status and the privileges stipulated by international law in this regard, Brother Abu al-Lutf said: I regret to say that the Spanish foreign minster's statement is greatly misleading and an attempt to sell the Arabs hollow talk. This is because in the days of the late Spanish President Franco, the PLO enjoyed the privileges of an embassy.

Official Denies PLO Offices in Jordan To Close

JN271849 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1750 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] In Amman, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has stated that he had received reassurances from the Jordanian Government that not one of the PLO offices will be closed as the Kuwaiti paper *AL-ANBA'* reported today.

In a statement to REUTER, Abu Jihad said that he sought clarifications from the Jordanian Government about the truth of the *AL-ANBA'* report, and that Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i told him that the report was unfounded. An authoritative Jordanian source also said that the report is not true.

AL-ANBA' reported today that King Husayn asked PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat to close the main PLO offices in Amman before the end of March and that he had also decided to expel 100 PLO members who are working in Jordan.

Differences Between 'Arafat, Fatah Envoy Reported

GF271525 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 26 Mar 86 pp 1, 20

["Exclusive" report from Amman]

[Text] Differences have exacerbated between Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and 'Atallah 'Atallah, alias Abu al-Za'im, Fatah representative in Jordan. This exacerbation was a result of Abu al-Za'im's moves on the Jordanian arena, which Yasir 'Arafat believes are aimed at setting up a leadership alternative to the PLO, with the Jordanian authorities' encouragement.

AL-BAYAN has learned 'Arafat asked Abu al-Za'im to leave Jordan for Tunisia, and he warned him that if he refuses to leave 'Arafat would dismiss him from Fatah and would announce the dismissal in the media.

Fatah sources have said that 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, PLO representative to Jordan, conveyed this warning 2 days ago to Abu al-Za'im, who rejected a similar order early this month. The sources said that Abu al-Za'im, a former Jordanian army officer who joined Fatah following events in September 1970, intends to make a number of visits to Palestinian camps in Jordan to meet with their dignitaries to instigate them against Yasir 'Arafat and his deputy Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, who is currently in Jordan. The sources added that Abu al-Za'im, who has been able to win the support of a large sector of the al-Karamah forces in Fatah, demands the dismissal of two of 'Arafat's supporters: Al-Hajj Mutlaq, who is in charge of Fatah recruitment, and Fu'ad al-Shubaki, official in charge of the movement's financial department.

It should be noted that during his last visit to Jordan, 'Arafat appointed Abu al-Za'im, former leader of Palestinian military intelligence, as Fatah representative to Jordan, succeeding Hani al-Hasan, who was dismissed after the working committee loyal to him was dissolved.

'Arafat Discusses Jordanian Links, UN Resolutions

Hopeful on Jordanian Dialogue

NC272235 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2030 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has expressed hope that Egyptian and Arab efforts to get the dialogue between Jordan and the Palestinians moving again will succeed, and will not be hindered by American or Israeli obstacles.

In a statement broadcast by London radio this evening, 'Arafat denied that there is anything standing in the way of a Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. However, he referred to America's intransigent position on the PLO, and said that this problem is one between his group and the United States.

'Arafat added that the content of the three formulas sent to the United States is — except for a few amendments — identical to that mentioned by King Husayn on 29 May. He noted that these amendments concern PLO willingness to take part in an international conference attended by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council on the basis of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, particularly that of self-determination; the Jordanian-Palestinian accord; and all UN resolutions, as opposed to 242 and 338 alone.

'Arafat touched on PLO relations with Syria in his statement. He noted that the PLO decided to turn over a new leaf with Damascus at the 7 January meeting of Palestinian leaders in Baghdad. He added that the conferees decided not to respond to any unilateral media campaigns. However, these actions did not have the desired results.

'Arafat explained that the PLO will continue this policy for the sake of Arab fraternity, and to meet the challenges that the PLO faces from Israel.

Affirms Support For UN Resolutions

JN271940 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has affirmed the PLO's willingness to recognize Security Council Resolution 242 if the five permanent members of the Security Council guarantee the Palestinian people's right to self-determination within the legitimate rights approved for them by the international authorities.

Regarding Palestinian-Jordanian relations, Brother Abu 'Ammar affirmed, in a statement to the Egyptian *AL-JUMHURIYAH* newspaper published the day before yesterday, the PLO's eagerness to maintain the relationship wioh Jordan. He said: Our dispute with the United States must lead to a dispute with the brothers in Jordan. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar described Palestinian-Jordanian relations as strategic.

Khalaf Expresses PLO Gratitude for Arab Aid

PM271633 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 26 Mar 86 p 3

[Report on interview with Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), Fatah Central Committee member, by *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Gulf Bureau; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), Fatah Central Committee member, expressed the PLO's thanks to Saudi monarch King Fahd 'Abd al-'Aziz and to his government for the support they give to the Palestinian people and their legitimate leadership, the PLO.

He said that most Arab countries had stopped their aid to the PLO since 1982 with the exception of the Saudi Kingdom, which continued to give aid to the inhabitants of the occupied territories and to the PLO and to honor its financial obligations.

In a statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Abu Iyad said that UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan this month resumed paying the UAE's obligations to the PLO and had ordered part of the outstanding obligations to be settled. He said that Iraq, despite its war with Iran, had paid a large portion of last year's obligations. No countries other than these have paid their obligations.

Khalaf stressed the need to maintain contacts between the Arab countries and Egypt to discuss ways for its return to the Arab world and the Arab world's return to Egypt. Through such contacts, he added, details of what Egypt needs for this return can be discussed. This includes discussing the Camp David agreements, their effect on the restoration of Egypt's relations with the Arabs, and the way Egypt can get rid of these agreements without causing a national disaster for Egypt and the Arab world.

He said: "We attach great hopes to President Mubarak's patriotic and nationalist stands in seeking to hold such meetings in the interest of Egypt and the whole Arab world."

Asked about the PLO's next step following Jordan's suspension of coordination with it and in the absence of Arab solidarity, Abu Iyad said: "Our plan is to continue armed struggle until the Arab nation rids itself of its internal strife and conflicts. We are also seeking to strengthen Palestinian national unity with all means possible. We will also strive for the resumption of normal relations with Syria and Jordan within the framework of the Arab summit resolutions on wich all the Arabs have agreed."

PLO Committee Member Lauds Kuwaiti Support

LD262243 Kuwait KUNA in English 1545 GMT 24 Mar 86

[By Uthman al-Dayel]

[Text] Riyadh, March 24 (KUNA) — Member of the PLO Executive Committee Muhammad Milhim lauded the stance of his highness the amir of Kuwait and his support to the steadfastness in the occupied territories and his pledge that Kuwait's share in backing the steadfastness will be paid, particularly in light of the disasterous situation the Palestinian universities are passing through. [sentence as received]

In an interview with Kuwait news agency, Milhim who is the director of the Occupied Homeland Department at the PLO and the deposed mayor of Halhul, in the occupied West Bank, said the stance conveyed by his highness the amir at a meeting with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat two months ago has been welcomed by the Palestinian people and the students and teachers in the occupied territories.

Milhim was speaking about the crisis the higher education in the occupied territories is passing through due to the budget deficits that threaten to close the universities there.

Milhim, who is attending the eighth general conference of the Arab Cities Organization (ACO), warned that Israel is insisting to liquidate the Palestinian representatives whether in the Palestinian municipalities or other institutions, hoping to pick an alternative to the PLO, the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The Israeli scheme has been foiled by the position declared by former Mayor of Nablus, Zafir al-Masri who was assassinated last month, and the stands of other Palestinian figures in the occupied territories which rejected an alternative to the PLO, Milhim said.

He added that he has called in his speech delivered at the ACO conference for giving the Palestinian people the right to elect their municipal councils.

Milhim called for re-evaluating the relations between Arab cities and the Palestinian cities in the occupied territories.

Those cities are being subjected to liquidation of their municipal councils, sacking of mayors and appointing Israeli officers for the jobs with the aim of implementing the Israeli plan to settle inside the Palestinian cities, Milhim said.

He pointed out that the Palestinians are facing the threat of being evacuated from (?their lands) [words indistinct] rural councils are suffering from the [word indistinct] of Arab subsidy.

Mulhim lauded the idea of (?twining) Palestinian and Arab cities which was adopted seven years ago by the organization with the aim of bolstering steadfastness of the cities under occupation.

He predicted that Israel, after its attempts to set up an alternative to the PLO have been foiled, will escalate its atrocious practices against the Palestinians under occupation.

He concluded by calling for an Arab meeting and for unifying efforts because he said Israel is preparing for a new confrontation that ranges from military strikes to pressure with different means to realize its expansionist goals.

PLO Reports Israeli Raid on Fatah Camps in Lebanon

JN271818 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Zionist enemy warplanes this morning launched an aggressive, ugly raid against several Palestinian positions in the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah refugee camp southeast of Sidon in southern Lebanon. According to initial accounts, the criminal Zionist raid led to the martyrdom and wounding of nearly 20 Palestinian citizens. Reports from southern Lebanon said that the Zionist warplanes bombed in three stages positions belonging to the Palestinian resistance inside and on the outskirts of Al-Miyah Wa Miyah, especially in Tallat Sirob.

This afternoon, the enemy radio admitted that the Zionist warplanes had raided the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah refugee camp. It said that the raid was aimed against a Fatah movement camp and another training camp.

Successful Operations Reported Inside Israel

Club 'Frequented' by Enemy Agents

JN271936 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following: Our heroic revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland are continuing to escalate their armed operations against the enemy's vital and military installations throughout our occupied Palestinian land. The following are the details of these operations:

1. Our heroes from the martyr Isma'il Darwish group operating inside the occupied homeland managed to plant timed, incendiary charges inside the Cosmos Club in the Nahalat quarter of occupied Jerusalem which is frequented by members of the enemy intelligence. The charges exploded at 0200 on 27 March 1986 when the club was crowded with enemy personnel. A fire ensued which destroyed everything in the club, and an unknown number of enemy personnel were injured. The enemy's fire brigade, which was rushed to the club, failed to prevent the fire from spreading to neighboring buildings, which sustained grave material damage.

2. After overcoming all the enemy precautionary measures, our heroes from the Arbor Day martyrs group operating inside the occupied homeland managed to plant timed, explosive charges inside a Zionist interrogation center in the (Qiryat Qab) settlement north of Tel Aviv. Our heroes later withdrew to carry out their fighting mission.

At 0220 on 27 March 1986, the charges exploded, destroying everything in the center and causing a huge fire which spread to the upper parts of the building. The material damage was very extensive.

3. Our heroes continued to carry out their operations against the enemy's vital and military targets. This morning, a special group from the martyr hero Kamal Nasir group managed to plant timed, explosive charges inside a bus station used for transporting Zionist soldiers at the Nahshun crossroads near Tel Aviv. The charges exploded at 0200 this morning, wounding three enemy soldiers and completely destroying the station. Immediately afterward, the enemy forces cordoned off the area, searched the area for other charges, and arrested scores of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of being involved in the operation. Our revolutionaries returned safely to base.

4. Our heroes operating inside the occupied homeland are continuing to escalate their heroic operations against the enemy's vital and military targets, especially inside the so-called green line, to refute all the enemy's previous claims of recently discovering numerous Fatah cells and to confirm the failure of all the enemy security measures inside the occupied homeland. Yesterday, 26 March 1986, a massive explosion shook the industrial estate in Petah Tiqva as a result of the charges planted by the martyr 'Ali al-Zaybaq group. The explosion set fire to numerous factories and depots inside the area. The Zionist firemen's efforts to contain the fires failed. The fires destroyed several factories and depots. The enemy's financial losses are estimated at several millions of dollars, as well as losses among the Zionist firemen.

5. Our revolutionaries from the martyr Lina al-Nabulsi group operating inside the occupied homeland launched an incendiary bomb attack the day before yesterday against an enemy military vehicle as it passed near the Balatah refugee camp near Nabulus. One the bombs exploded inside the vehicle, burning it and wounding its driver. Immediately afterward, the Zionist enemy soldiers and border guards besieged the refugee camp and carried out an extensive search which lasted until the early hours of the morning. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestininan revolution forces general command.

Settlement, Military Positions Shelled

JN271843 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Palestinian-national Lebanese joint forces fired Katyusha rockets at the Zionist Qiryat Shemona settlement in northern occupied Palestine this morning. The rockets scored accurate hits and caused a huge fire inside the settlement, killing or wounding a large number of Zionist soldiers and settlers.

The joint forces also used Katyusha rockets and heavy mortars to shell a number of joint military positions of the Zionist enemy and the militias of the so-called army of southern Lebanon in Al-'Ayshiyah, north of Marj 'Uyun in southern Lebanon this morning. The positions sustained grave material damage, a large number of Zionist soldiers and agent elements were killed or wounded, and a number of military vehicles were either destroyed or damaged.

The joint forces detonated a number of remote-controlled, explosive charges yesterday under a Zionist military patrol as it passed on the Jisr al-Khardali-Dayr Mimat road in southern Lebanon. Two Zionist intelligence vehicles were destroyed and a large number of Zionist enemy personnel were either killed or wounded. The joint forces also used machineguns and rockets to attack a military position yesterday belonging to the militias of the so-called Army of Southern Lebanon in Bayt Yahum in southern Lebanon. The position sustained grave damage, and a large number of agent elements were either killed or wounded. The joint forces attacked a military patrol yesterday belonging to Antoine Lahd's agent militias on the Marj 'Uyun road. They clashed with the patrol with machineguns and rockets. A military jeep was destroyed and another was damaged, and a number of agent elements were either killed or wounded.

Bomb Detonated Near Tel Aviv

GF271903 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Our Palestinian revolutionaries inside the occupied homeland have continued their heroic operations against Zionist targets and installations. They detonated an explosive charge at a waiting station for the enemy soldiers in occupied Jerusalem. The Zionist enemy radio admitted the explosion this morning in Nahsun area between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in occupied Palestine. As usual, the radio did not mention losses but said that the Zionist forces surrounded the area and began a search operation for other explosive charges in the area.

Israeli, Lahd Positions Attacked

JN262108 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The men of the Palestinian-nationalist Lebanese joint forces launched a Katyusha rocket attack against a Zionist military psoition near Al-Hamra' bridge in the occupied border strip yesterday. The missiles hit their targets accurately and directly, destroying a Zionist armored vehicle, starting a huge fire in the position, and either killing or wounding a number of Zionist enemy soldiers.

The joint forces also used their Katyusha rockets and heavy mortars to shell a military position belonging to the agent Antoine Lahd militias affiliated with the Zionist enemy near 'Ayn Ibil in southern Lebanon. The position was severely damaged and a number of agent soldiers were either killed or wounded.

The joint forces also attacked a military position belonging to the agent militias in Bayt Yahun in southern Lebanon yesterday. The attack, in which machineguns and rockets were used, severely damaged the position, destroyed a jeep, and killed or wounded a number of agent personnel.

KUWAIT

Minister Returns From Tunis Arab League Talks

LD271657 Kuwait KUNA in English 1730 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 26 (KUNA) — Kuwait's deputy premier, Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad returned here from Tunis tonight after attending a session for the Arab League Ministerial Council.

Sheikh Sabah told reporters at the airport the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and the threats it poses to the security and stability of the region dominated discussions of the Arab League Council session.

He recalled that the council had condemned the last month Iranian aggression against Iraq and Iranian threats against other Arab Gulf countries.

The Kuwaiti chief diplomat, who called for an urgent Arab summit two days ago, said the council recommended that Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi make contacts with the Arab states to set the state for the proposed summit.

The League's ministerial council which went into session last Monday will resume its meetings at the level of permanent delegates to the Arab League to reach final resolutions he added.

Sheikh Sabah noted that the Arab foreign ministers or their representatives have spelled out whole-hearted support for Libya in the face of the U.S. aggression.

He remarked that the ministerial session was held "amidst very delecate circumstances which mark a serious turning point in the joint Arab action."

In a statement before leaving for Tunis last Sunday Sheikh Sabah spoke bitterly of the state of disarray in the Arab world.

He added in his today's statement that Arab foreign ministers who met in Tunis also discussed how a measure of Arab solidarity could be attained.

Security Measures Not To Infringe on Citizens

GF271234 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 26 Mar 86 p 1

[Excerpt] Kuwait's Interior Minister, Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad, was quoted yesterday as saying measures adopted to counter the expansion of organized terrorism would in no way infringe on the personal freedom of citizens and expatriates.

Shaykh Nawwaf told *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* newspaper that liberties are protected by the power of the Constitution and cannot be violated.

He said that the security authorities would protect these liberties in accordance with law.

The interior minister said that Kuwait was cooperating with other countries in combatting terrorism, and has been providing special training for security personnel in cooperation with Arab countries.

Shaykh Nawwaf noted that restrictions on visitors to Kuwait airport were imposed for security reasons.

On his recent visit to Yugoslavia, Shaykh Nawwaf said it had achieved an unexpected success. He added that his talks with Yugoslav officials in Belgrade had opened the door for greater cooperation in combatting terrorism and other security concerns.

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM on Support Voiced for Libya

GF271555 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 26 Mar 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Hassan's Bomb and Al-Qadhdhafi's Missiles"]

[Excerpts] Less than 24 hours after the bomb which King Hassan II exploded concerning the selection of an Arab leader to hold a public dialogue with the sponsorship on the Fes summit resolutions, North Africa turned into a new firebelt. This time the belt was ignited by the United States in its provocations against Libya — provocations caused by the U.S. fleets both roaming international waters in the Mediterranean and also by encroaching upon Libyan waters in the Gulf of Sidra.

What is truly astonishing is that the Moroccan king, for instance, who yesterday called for implementing the joint Arab Defense Pact with Iraq, did not call for implementing the pact toward Libya despite the unity treaty that links him to Tripoli.

Despite our strong opposition to the Libyan stand toward Iraq and our numerous reservations toward some of Tripoli's actions, we still stand by Libya in the face of U.S. provocations. We will not be satisfied with only condemning the aggression by the U.S. fleet and the air raids; we urge the entire Arab nation to rise to its historical obligations and pan-Arab duties, as the Arab Libyan people are the same as the people of Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and the Gulf.

PDRY

March Held in 'Indignation' Over U.S. 'Aggression'

GF271543 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Aden today witnessed a popular march in solidarity with the fraternal Libyan people as an expression of the people's sweeping indignation over the blatant U.S. aggression against our brothers in Libya. The march started from the 26 September square and headed toward the public square in Khurmakthar.

The march culminated in a popular demonstration attended by brother Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general and secretary of the YSP Central Committee; brother Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the Political Bureau and prime minister; a number of members of the political bureau, YSP Central Committee, and the Council of Ministers; presidents of popular organizations; the secretary general of the Libyan brotherhood bureau in Aden; and representatives of the Arab and world liberation movements in Aden.

Amid slogans and chants in denunciation of the U.S. aggression against the territory of fraternal Libya, Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, delivered a speech affirming the solidarity of our party, people, and country with Libya and their full support for the Libyan people's legitimate struggle against all imperialist plots and the aggressive challenges which aim at undermining the national leadership of the Libyan people and at liquidating the 1 September Revolution. He praised the revolutionary changes and achievements the 1 September Revolution has accomplished under the daring and courageous leadership of Arab struggler Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. He recalled Libya's eminent role in the struggle against imperialism and Zionism. He said: It is not strange that imperialist forces try to plot against the Libyan people and their heroic revolution through all means and methods, which culminated in imposing an economic blockade against Libya and in the armed aggression against its national sovereignty. He expressed confidence that Libya will hold fast against the aggression and in defending its national sovereinty in order to continue its strong revolutionary march thanks to its people's will, their experienced leadership, and the solidarity of all forces of freedom, progress, socialism, and peace all over the world.

Brother Salim Salih Muhammad affirmed our people's condemnation of the U.S. imperialist aggression against Libya and our people's readiness to fight the U.S. aggression. He noted that the Libyan people and the Arab people are not alone in fighting the U.S. aggression and arrogance; all struggling people in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and all the world's peace-loving and progress-loving peoples stand with them.

Brother Ahmad 'Abd al-Salam Abu Bakr, secretary of the Libyan brotherhood bureau in Aden, delivered a speech praising our PDRY people in their sincere fraternal solidarity with the Arab Libyan people in their courageous resistance to the U.S. aggression which aims at Libya's sovereignty and security. He noted that from the first moment, the PDRY leadership and people expressed concern over U.S. provocations off the Gulf of Sidra. He affirmed that this embodies Arab solidarity against the challenges against our Arab nation. He recalled the U.S. imperialism's defeats in Vietnam, Cuba, and Lebanon. He asserted that the Arab Libyan people have pledged to strongly resist any aggression in order to teach the U.S. forces a new lesson to be added to the epics of heroism and sacrifices by the struggling peoples in defense of their freedom.

SAUDI ARABIA

Crown Prince Receives Al-Qadhdhafi Message

GF271929 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander-in-chief of the National Guard, today received Major Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, RCC member in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salan al-Turayki. They conveyed to his highness a message from his excellency Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the president of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, to his brother His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

KUNA: Saudi Crown Prince on Gulf War, Arab Summit

LD271127 Kuwait KUNA in English 0959 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] London, March 27 (KUNA) — Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz affirmed in his comment on the Iraq-Iran war that his country is against "Moslem bloodshed" stressing on Saudi Arabia's support to Iraq.

In a [word indistinct] with Arab writers and thinkers, reported by *AL-TADAMUN* magazine, to be published here Saturday, Prince 'Abdallah said "our belief in our Arabism urges us to support our brothers in Iraq in their defence of their land."

He expressed hope the Gulf war would come to an end soon, though he noted that "Iran seems to be determined to continue it".

On his country's stance toward the Iranian threats to expand the Iraq-Iran war to include other Gulf countries and if the Gulf Peninsula Shield Force will be used to defend those countries, the Saudi official said "We hope the day would not come when we are forced to use the Peninsula Shield Force, but the Iranian aggression on any Gulf country is an aggression on the Kingdom.."

On Saudi Arabia's relations with the present Iranian regime, Prince 'Abdallah said "Our dealing with Iran is tolerant," noting that although "the Iranians are peculiar in their attitude we still go along with them till the end.

Referring to the Iranian foreign minister's latest visit to Saudi Arabia, Prince 'Abdallah said "the visit did not come out with any positive results", and on the visit of Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal to Tehran he said, the visit occurred following "strong insistence by it".

On the shooting down of two Iranian airplanes over the Saudi territories, the Saudi official said "this proves Iran's determination on provoking us," affirming that the Iranian planes were warned by Saudi aircraft when they were approaching the Saudi airspace, but the Iranian planes ignored the warning.

Meanwhile, Prince 'Abdallah expressed hope that Arab leaders would hold a summit conference, in response to Saudi efforts to unify the Arab rank.

On Egypt's role in the Arab platform, he said "the Arabs cannot do without Egypt, and Egypt cannot do without the Arabs." [Word indistinct] of diplomatic relations between Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union, Prince 'Abdallah said his country has conditions in this matter, "but expressed belief that the establishment of such relations could be after six months or after a year."

Air Exercises Held; Tornado Planes Arrive

GF280634 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1620 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Al-Dammam, 27 Mar (SPA) — The Saudi Royal Air Force concluded exercises today in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince 'Abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, vice minister of defense and aviation and inspector general.

After the exercises, Chief of Staff General Muhammad al-Hammad announced the arrival of the first group of Tornado planes piloted by Saudi pilots. He said that this group will be followed by other groups, God willing. Upon arrival, the Tornado planes made two parade flights over the dais.

After that Prince 'Abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, vice minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, made a press statement saying that the improvement of Saudi armed forces under His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, supreme commander of the Armed Forces, is progressing well.

Concerning reports that there were mediators in the Tornado deal, his highness said that this deal was concluded between two states directly and without mediators. His highness then attended a luncheon hosted by the commander of King 'Abd al-'Aziz Air Base, after which his highness inspected the first group of Tornado planes which arrived in the Kingdom today.

UAE

Papers Comment on U.S., Libyan Confrontation

'Retreat' of U.S. Fleet Noted

GF280742 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0650 GMT 28 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 28 Mar (WAM) — In their editorials today, three local newspapers comment on the retreat of the U.S. fleet from the Libyan coast. The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* considers this retreat a point in favor of Libya and its steadfastness and in favor of the Arab and international forces which have supported Libya. However, the newspaper warns that the U.S. retreat does not necessarily mean an end to the U.S. aggression against the Arab nation. "In fact, this aggression is only one chapter in the aggressive U.S. policy toward the Arabs and the entire Arab nation."

AL-ITTIHAD emphasizes that this aggression "should make us, the Arabs, put forward a plan to make the Mediterranean an Arab lake, at least along its southern coast," because this sea is an indivisible part of our nation's borders and an indivisible part of the security of the historical Mediterranean countries, not of transient and artificial entities.

The newspaper *AL-BAYAN* says that the continued U.S. defiance of the Arab nation should not pass without a pause in thought by the Arabs, because the United States in its aggressive raids has exceeded all limits; it would not have done so had it not been for Arab differences which encourage it to adopt its aggressive policy.

AL-BAYAN says that the U.S. President would not continue this policy if he believed that U.S. interests in the Arab homeland would not remain safe if he continued this hostile policy toward the Arabs, regardless of the devastating power he possesses.

AL-KHALIJ links the U.S. aggression against Libya to the Zionist aggression against Lebanon and the Arab countries and considers the two aggressions one indivisible part. "The United States and Israel want to put an end to points of resistance to their plan to control the Arab homeland. There is no difference between a country which opposes U.S. policy and an organization or a movement that does so. These targets are included in the calculations of the Americans and Zionists for elimination."

In conclusion, *AL-KHALIJ* wonders what the Arabs have done to reply to the Zionist-U.S. aggression. "Will the Arab citizen continue to wait for a unified Arab stand in a summit conference which the Arab countries cannot convene? Will the Arab parties who are the targets of Zionist-U.S. aggression remain scattered, in conflict, and at loggerheads? Do those who are the targets of the U.S. aggression want to give proper answers in order to form a real Arab front to counter the aggression and achieve victory?"

Libyan Stand Against U.S. Viewed

GF281038 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 28 Mar 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Standing Up to a Superpower"]

[Text] Reports that the Americans are preparing to remove their provocative and aggressive presence from near the shores of Libya ahead of the scheduled date of April 1 for the conclusion of their military exercises will be welcomed.

The confrontation in the Gulf of Sidra is entirely the Americans' doing, and the responsibility for ending it is therefore wholly their's. For the U.S. it will be pleaded that it has made its point — to establish the right of free navigation in the Gulf — and can now move its warships away. This would have been true if Libya had not physically challenged the presence of the American fleet. It did, and if any point has been made, it is by Libya which has forced the Americans to realise that it would be better to assume a low profile rather than deepen the crisis.

Certainly Libya has made the moral point that a superpower cannot arrogate to itself the right to walk in anywhere and expect to be greeted everywhere with humble salutations. Libya has also succeeded in gaining the support and sympathy of the other Arab countries and of peace-loving people all over the world.

The Arab League has described the U.S. moves as constituting an act threatening the collective security and safety of the Arab nation and held the Americans responsible for any consequences arising out of their action. The league has also talked of the Arabs' commitment to adopt practical measures to repel the aggression, and it is to be hoped that this question will receive the serious consideration of all member-states.

Libya may also have focused attention on the wider issue of superpower militarisation of the world's oceans. Soviet leader

Mikhail Gorbachev has offered to withdraw his country's fleet from the Mediterranean if the U.S. does the same and also suggested the convening of a Helsinki-type security and cooperation conference for the region. This is a constructive proposal which deserves to be moved forward, although in view of the failure of all efforts so far to make the Indian Ocean — another highly militarised bit of water — a zone of peace, optimism about any progress must remain very guarded. It may be difficult right now to imagine the day when the superpowers will begin to behave less like warlords. But if more countries were prepared like Libya to stand up to big-power bullying and if more were ready to deny military and refuelling facilities to superpower armadas, that day might dawn sooner than we expect.

YAR

Daily Praises Country's Stand in Support of Libya

GF280556 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 28 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, the newspaper *26 SEPTEMBER* praises our country's stand on the aggression carried out against Libya by the U.S. 6th Fleet.

The newspaper notes the stand announced by the president, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, to his brother Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi that our country supports the brothers in Libya in defense of their territory and legitimate rights and in their steadfastness against the brutal aggression by the U.S. 6th Fleet against Libyan territory.

It also notes our country's commitment to the provisions of the Arab joint defense treaty.

The newspaper describes this stand as an expression of our sincere affiliation to our common nation and our readiness to struggle to defend our right and the free indivisible Arab will.

Newspapers React to U.S. Maneuvers Near Libya

AL-AKHBAR on U.S. 'Provocation'

NC280750 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA) — In today's editorial, *AL-AKHBAR* welcomes Egypt's stand on the recent incidents that took place between the United States and Libya. It says that when Egypt calls upon the two parties to exercise self-restraint and to prevent an escalation in armed conflicts, it does so in the realization that the recurring extensive U.S. maneuvers were intended as a clear provocation and a show of force.

The paper adds that Libya fell into the trap when it fired 12 missiles; thus, both parties miscalculated. The editorial concludes: That which happened was not unexpected. The two countries' tense relations grew even worse last December when Washington accused Libya of involvement in the terrorist attacks on the Rome and Vienna airports. The United States threatened military revenge and then moved the Sixth Fleet and its aircraft carriers to the southern Mediterranean. The United States has carried out four military maneuvers off Libya's shores since Washington imposed economic sanctions on and banned all transactions with Libya.

AL-JUMHURIYAH on U.S. 'Aggression'

NC280740 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0641 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA) — *AL-JUMHURIYAH* stresses in today's editorial that the U.S. aggression against Libya and Israel's aggression against Lebanon are simply two prongs of a large-scale attack on the Arab world that involves several fronts and more than one axis.

AL-JUMHURIYAH goes on to say that this attack is not limited to military confrontation but includes economic action as well, pointing out that the recent attack on Arab oil income is no different from the shelling of Palestinian camps, essentially. In conclusion, the paper declares that the Arab tragedy lies in the fact that we do not see the obvious truth, choosing instead to bury our heads in the sand. The question is: Will we ever awaken and emerge from the Arabs' chronic slumber?

Ghali Says Israel 'Disfigures' Occupied Lands

NC271219 Paris AFP in English 1213 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 27 (AFP) — Israel has "disfigured" the territories it occupied in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, and its annexation of the Golan Heights and East Jerusalem pose major obstacles to solving the Palestinian question, Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said in an interview published here Thursday.

Mr. Ghali, in an interview with the French-language *LE JOURNAL D'EGYPTE*, asserted that the Golan Heights belonged to Syria, while East Jerusalem was part of the Israel-occupied West Bank. Wednesday was the seventh anniversary of the signing of the Camp David peace accords between Israel and Egypt.

Speculation on Mossad Role in Attack on Israelis

PM271608 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 24 Mar 86 p 6

[Lufti 'Abd al-Latif analysis: "What After the Shooting of the Four Israelis at the Fair?"]

[Excerpts] For the fourth time in about 2 years a movement calling itself "Egypt's Revolution" has claimed responsibility for an incident. In the statement it issues after every incident against the Israelis the movement says that it intends to assassinate every remaining Zionist on Egyptian territory.

Does this mean that there really is an organization called "Egypt's Revolution" or "Egypt's Revolutionaries" and that it was behind these four incidents? Assuming for the sake of argument that there is such an organization, which only assassinates Israelis, what is its material and numerical size, what are its future objectives, and will it continue to be wholly or partially mysterious? These are the questions on people's minds. They are difficult questions to answer.

On the other hand, could these acts have been committed individually, that is by various individuals with no organizational links, reflecting an expression of religious and historical tradition against Zionism in retaliation for its acts against Muslims, Arabs, and Egyptians? Or is the Israeli intelligence service Mossad behind most of these incidents to portray the Egyptian regime as a weak and unstable regime incapable of protecting the lives of diplomats, and particularly to give the impression that the Egyptian regime does not represent the Egyptian people and should therefore be easy to influence in negotiations?

Why shouldn't the Mossad be behind these incidents? Zionism had, in the past, sacrificed unwanted individuals from its own ranks for the sake of future gains and objectives related to the greater Zionist state extending "from the Nile to the Euphrates" with no other boundaries. It is not unlikely that Israel's Mossad would commit such acts at a time of Egyptian-Israeli negotiations to freeze or slow down these negotiations, or to get the highest price for Israel.

I believe that what happened after the four Israelis were shot outside the industrial fair last Wednesday evening explains this last view. The incident occurred on Wednesday evening while an Israeli delegation was in Cairo for the Tabah negotiations. This week an Egyptian delegation will go to Israel to resume the negotiations. The day after the incident the Egyptian Foreign Ministry condemned the incident and the Interior Ministry was looking for the culprits.

On Friday the Egyptian press appeared, carrying Israel's asking price as reflected in the following assertions:

1. A meeting between Mubarak and the Israeli tourism minister.

2. Immediate steps to remove the obstacles standing in the way of Egyptian-Israeli tourism.

3. No restrictions on Egyptian-Israeli trade other than the normal restrictions that apply to trade with all countries.

4. Egyptian Tourism Minister Fu'ad Sultan announces that the problems that had prevented Egyptian tourists from going to Israel has been solved and that the coming days will witness waves of Egyptian tourists going to Israel.

5. Mubarak announces that the Tabah negotiations are open and that there is no deadline for these negotiations.

Anyway, the issue stays on people's minds and the questions remain unanswered.

Delegation to Tabah Talks Returns From Tel Aviv

NC281111 Cairo MENA in English 1055 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 28 (MENA) — The Egyptian delegation to Tabah talks led by Nabil al-'Arabi, director of the legal department at the Foreign Ministry, returned here today coming from Israel.

Al-'Arabi said upon arrival that the Egyptian and Israeli sides resumed during this round of talks discussion of items of the arbitration arrangement, while they disagreed on some of these items an agreement was reached on several procedural matters. The next round of talks between both sides will be resumed here next week.

Lutfi on Relations With Arabs, 5-Year Plan

NC271736 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1550 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi has emphasized once again that relations between Egypt and the Arabs are continuing, despite the absence of diplomatic ties. He stated that no one could possibly cut the Egyptians off from the Arabs.

The prime minister made it clear that Egypt never broke off relations with anyone. He went on to say: We are confident that the decision to restore them will be made sooner or later. This, he noted, is only a passing cloud.

Dr Lutfi made these remarks in an interview with the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*. He stressed that the projects contained in the 5-year plan would continue and said there is no thought of canceling or postponing any of them. He added: The schemes outlined in the plan are essential. Besides, none of our projects concern the production of luxury goods.

Lutfi explained that 400,000 jobs must be made available each year. Therefore, he added, the cancellation of projects is out of the question. Dr Lutfi denied that income from the Suez Canal dropped in 1985. He pointed out: Egypt's revenue from the Suez Canal for that year was definitely no lower than in 1984. In fact, there was a slight increase in the collection of tolls in 1985.

Petroleum Minister Qandil on OPEC, Oil Prices

NC271624 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) — According to 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, Egypt played a major role at the recent meeting of OPEC countries in Geneva. He pointed out that Egypt formed a front of non-OPEC states at these sessions, which included Mexico, Oman, Angola, and Malaysia. The front managed to sponsor a working paper that caused the price of a barrel of oil to jump from $13 to $15.50 in a single day.

He maintained that disagreement among OPEC nations on the quota system had led to the current fall in prices.

During today's meeting of the NDP's economic committee, 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil asserted that the front of non-OPEC countries was also able to put forward a draft resolution stating that all oil-producing nations are responsible for prices.

Mr Qandil noted that the drop in prices had been expected since 1980, adding that the manipulators who ruined the oil market provided the primary stimulus for it.

Touching on the measures taken by Egypt to face the fall in prices, Mr. Qandil explained that the portion of the state budget devoted to the petroleum sector was drawn up in a way that takes account of such anticipated fluctuations. It estimates that the price per barrel will range between $11 and $13. He pointed out that any increase above that figure would apply only to Egypt.

Minister Qandil said Egypt is self-sufficient in oil, with the exception of diesel fuel, which is imported. He also noted that Egypt's daily oil needs are placed at 60-80,000 tons.

The NDP's Economic Committee, which met today under its chairman, Dr Samir Tubar, discussed ways of reducing the balance of payments deficit, adjusting the course of the economy, and the role that oil can play in achieving this.

'Arafat Ends 6-Day Visit, Leaves Cairo

NC271840 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1830 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Cairo this evening following a 6-day visit to Egypt. During his stay, 'Arafat held talks with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and other senior Egyptian officials. He also met with UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding.

Saddam Husayn Inspects Training Camps

JN271553 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1535 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, Armed Forces commander in chief, has inspected two training camps. His excellency witnessed a tactical exercise with live ammunition during which the Iraqi fighters attacked a mock enemy position and liberated it. The exercise reflected the efficiency and high ability of the Iraqi Armed Forces in carrying out all the missions with which they are entrusted.

President Saddam Husayn gave his directives on how important it is for the Iraqi fighter to be alert and how he must assess the situation before moving from one position to the other.

The fighters pledged to President Saddam that they will seek martyrdom in their defense of the homeland and that they will continue to fight until the last inch of the sacred Iraqi soil is liberated and the land is purged of the aggressors' filth.

'Arafat Arrives in Baghdad From Cairo

JN271958 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1952 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived here from Cairo this evening on a visit to Iraq that will last several days. Yasir 'Arafat paid a visit to Egypt which lasted several days during which he met with Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, with whom he discussed the developments of the Palestinian cause and the efforts underway to attain a just solution.

Further Reportage on Ba'th, LCY Officials' Talks

Ramadan Receives SFRY Party Official

JN271425 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1355 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received Hamidja Pozdera, member of the LCY Central Committee, and his accompanying delegation here today. The two sides reviewed bilateral economic and trade relations and ways to promote them, Iraq-Iran war developments, how to activate and support the Nonaligned Movement, and issues of mutual interest.

The meeting was attended by Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, director of the Ba'th Party National Command Foreign Relations Department, and the SFRY ambassador in Baghdad.

Tariq 'Aziz Returns From Arab League Meeting

JN271027 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz returned to Baghdad at dawn today after participating in the Arab League Council meetings that ended in Tunis yesterday.

Communiques Issued on Combat Operations

Communique No 2,164

JN271838 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,164 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 27 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Through daring and efficient operations, our valiant Armed Forces reiterate their commitment to their principles and to their pledge to the great people that they will saturate the soil with the aggressors' blood and will uproot any presence they have on every inch of our beloved land that they have desecrated. The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. On the VII Army Corps front: Our triumphant forces of the heroic Al-Rashid and northern columns continued to inflict heavy losses on the aggressors through the unceasing shelling of the narrow strip in which the enemy forces are present, using all types of weapons. Our forces are imposing their full control on the situation and are taking all the appropriate measures to destroy the aggressors and expel them from our territory.

2. We Iraqis have decided to defend our land, safeguard our sovereignty, prove through daring acts that we are affiliated with our Arab heritage, demonstrate that we are capable of mapping out our future as we wish, and we will ruthlessly bear down on our enemy until we wipe it out and completely remove the grudge-bearing sentiments they harbor in their minds with our intractable power, the only method they understand. We will also make them sustain irreparable losses and deprive them of any means to commit aggression and of any facility they may use for their evil designs.

We Iraqis have also decided to make the aggressor sustain tragedies and make those who antagonize us drink of their own blood. We have also decided to force those who insist on war and who rejoice at its tribulations to receive their daily share in terms of the destruction they will pay for as the price for their crime. We have never been unjust to anyone. However, they themselves have chosen the road to perdition. This is the reward of the renegades.

Our giant Air Force, the pride of the Arabs, their asset in the epics to come, Iraq's long arm, and the fist of freedom that will reach the advocates of servitude wherever they may anytime it wishes, will continue thanks to the soldiers of leader Saddam Husayn, to proceed on the road to victory, full of anger that will make the heads of the rogues bend down under their blows. At 0950 today, the valiant Air Force planes carried out a raid against the extremely important Talah Zang railway bridge which the enemy uses to transfer supplies, troops, and weapons. This bridge is situated northeast of Dezful and connects Dezful with Qom and Tehran and is one of the most important crossing points between northern and southern Iran and is extensively used by the enemy for purposes of aggression. In a lightning raid, the bridge was completely destroyed and transformed into burning junk.

3. In addition to the above, our Air Force carried out 233 combat missions against enemy positions, troop concentrations, and weapons emplacements, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. Our valiant eagles dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 0910 today. At 1215 today, our valiant eagles carried out a successful raid against the Ganaveh oil terminal, setting their targets ablaze. At 1240 today, seven large vessels escorted by nine large boats were sighted north of the Arab Gulf while they were on their way to the entrance of the Shatt al-'Arab. They were carrying military hardware, weapons, and enemy troop concentrations. Fifteen minutes later, several of our planes were overflying the area. It was a splendid opportunity for our eagles to demonstrate their dexterity and to mete punishment on the enemy. They continued to deal a number of blows to the naval convoy, pouncing on their preys one after the other until 1530 today, when the last prey was wiped out. The Khomeyniites' vessels and boats were transformed by our sons into debris tossed around by the waves.

At 1242 today, our planes carried out a devastating raid on the Robat camp, inflicting losses in weapons, equipment, and personnel on the enemy. At 1435 today, our planes carried out a destructive raid on the Moshk camp, inflicting losses in weapons, personnel, and equipment on the enemy. At 1630 today, our planes carried out a daring raid against the Galdian camp, killing many enemy soldiers and destroying enemy weapons, military hardware, and ammunition depots. After carrying out all these missions, they safely returned to the homeland under God's protection and guidance. Let the Khomeyniites understand that we will sow death among their ranks. Glory to our Air Force, and we thank God for His gifts.

4. The staunch helicopter gunship knights continue to inflict heavy losses in life and equipment on the enemy forces. They carried out 33 combat sorties today, after which they safely returned to base, praise be to God.

5. A patrol of one of our units in the I Army Corps northern sector clashed with an enemy patrol, capturing two soldiers while the rest fled. Elsewhere in the same sector, our units destroyed one enemy excavator and one large vehicle.

6. At 1047 today, two enemy planes tried to violate our international borders over the VII Army Corps front. Our ground resistance men intercepted them, shooting down one of them, an F-4 plane.

7. In another of their cowardly acts, the forces of the frustrated clique in Iran shelled the Mandali and Khanaqin environs and Darband-e Khan with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 March 1986

Communique No 2,165

JN281235 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1024 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,165 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 28 March 1986]

[Excerpt] O proud Iraqis: The unjust enemy had been occupying some extremely important and strategic mountain peaks in the northern part of the homeland since 1983. They are Peaks 1,264; 1,275; 1,312; 1,318; 1,332; 1,360; 1,368; 1,308; 1,369; 1,421; 1,436; 1,440; 1,341; and 1,443, as well as the areas of (Mamindawah), (Junarat Shaykh Latif), and (Kani Kunluh).

The wicked Khomeyniites thought they would remain in these proud mountains in order to satisfy their greedy ambitions, nurture their grudges, and use these mountains to harm our people and homeland. Little did they know that our God would protect our nation and that the eyes of the Iraqis were watching them and that the Iraqi leadership's wisdom and courage would incinerate all foreign presence on our proud land. Thus, the heroic I Army Corps forces began their stormy, sweeping attack at 1930 [1630 GMT] yesterday and ended it at 0845 today. In fierce battle, during which our men brought back memories of our grandfathers' courage and determination, deriving their will from the spirit and vitality of the leadership, our forces climbed the mountain peaks one after another over the bodies of the Khomeyniites, leaving the enemies as burned cadavers filling the hills and the slopes of the mountains. They humbled the heads of the lowly and mean ones and raised Iraq's flag over the immortal peaks. Our forces liberated all the above peaks and wiped out the enemy presence there. The situation was settled in favor of our triumphant forces, which reached the northern side of the Halwan area. O proud Iraqis, the men who led this epic and were at the forefront were:

Special Forces Staff Lieutenant General Nizar 'Abd al-Karim al-Khazraji, commander of the heroic I Army Corps, who planned and supervised the battle.

Special Forces Staff Brigadier General Kamil Sajit 'Aziz, commander of the brave Al-Siddiq Forces, who was leading three columns, the first under the command of Special Forces Brigadier General 'Ali Husayn Muz'il Mun'im Muhammadawi; the second under the command of Special Forces Commander Lieutenant Colonel Zaki Khattab al-Fad'am; and the tank column under the command of Lieutenant Colonel 'Abd al-Rahman 'Awwad.

Staff Brigadier General Samir Sa'id 'Abd al-Hakim, commander of the brave Al-Harith Forces, who was assisted by Staff Brigadier General Natiq Shakir al-Ramiz. The two commanders over saw three columns. The first column under the command of Staff Lieutenant Colonel Mukhlif Jamil al-Nu'aymi, the second column under the command of Colonel Hassun Dakhil al-Jumayl, and the third column, which is a tank column, under the command of Major 'Abdallah Salih Majid.

The artillery effort was supervised by Major General 'Amir Shit Husayn.

The brave fighters from our heoric Kurdish people participated in this honorable battle within the engagement [Al-Mushaghalah] column, which consisted of: The 1st Regiment under the command of Adviser [al-Mustashar] Latif Ahmad al-Zibari, assisted by 'Asif Ahmad al-Zibari; the 9th Regiment under the command of Husayn Jihangir al-Mizwari; and the 20th Brigade under the command of Ibrahim al-Haj 'Alawi.

As always, your Air Force and brave pilots played their great role in the battle. The helicopter gunships and the special units of the heroic Popular Army, the brave backer of our Armed Forces, played their splendid role in this battle of dignity. The Ba'th Party comrades from the northern military branch were at the heart of the attack, taking a leading position.

In short, we say that the Iraqi people and their vanguards, both Arabs and Kurds, and the entire people of Saddam Husayn were present, fighting and emerging victorious in this immortal battle. The enemy suffered very massive losses in men, equipment, and hardware. Only the prisoners, who surrendered to our forces in great numbers, escaped death.

This is Iraq's victory. This is the end of any such aggression on our blessed land. We pledge to our people that we will make the disaster which will befall the Khomeyniites in the southern part of the homeland even more bitter and disastrous. Their fate will be an abject defeat and they will end up in hell.

Our land will remain for us. We will preserve our revolution's achievements, our sovereignty, and our secure life under our wise leadership.

Long live the people, long live the leader, long live the army. God is great, accursed are the enemies.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 March 1986

House Approves Draft Electoral Law for 1986

JN271422 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The House of Representatives approved with an absolute majority the House of Representatives draft electoral law for 1986 at this morning's session presided over by House Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz and attended by Prime Miniister Zayd al-Rifa'i and the ministers.

According to this law, the House of Representatives will now have 142 seats instead of 60: 71 seats for the East Bank and 71 seats for the West Bank, 60 of which are allotted to the occupied West Bank and 11 to the refugee camps in the East Bank.

USSR Envoy Gives Lecture on Foreign Policy, Issues

JN271531 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 27 Mar 86 p 20

[Sana' al-'Alul Dispatch]

[Text] Amman — USSR Ambassador in Amman Aleksandr Zinchuk has stressed that a solution to the Palestine question can only be achieved through a unified Arab stand. He pointed out that Israel will not withdraw from the occupied Arab territories unless the Arabs adopt a unified stand.

This came in a lecture the USSR ambassador delivered at the International Affairs Society last night on the results of the 27th CPSU Congress regarding the USSR's foreign policy. The ambassador spoke about various international issues of interest to the Arab world in the presence of several statemen, ambassadors, and members of the diplomatic corps in Amman.

Zinchuk said that the Middle East crisis was among the priorities Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev touched on at the CPSU congress. He added that the USSR concept of a solution to the Palestine question is based on Israel's complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, solving the Palestinians' problem by giving them the right to self-determination, and guaranteeing every side's right to live in peace in the region.

The USSR ambassador accused the United States, which deals with this issue as if the Middle East region were under its control and influence, of being the cause of the lack of a settlement of the Middle East crisis and a solution to the Palestine question.

Zinchuk reiterated that the USSR will not restore relations with the Zionist entity bcause Israel has not showed any intention of withdrawing from the Arab territories it occupied in 1967. He stressed Moscow's continuous support for the Arab struggle, pointing to the support for the PLO, the Soviet agreement to supply Syria with weapons, and to the USSR stand on the U.S. provocations against Libya.

The Soviet ambassador spoke about the Iraq-Iran war and called for intensifying efforts to end the conflict in the Gulf by political means. He pointed out that the region's enemies, including Israel, are the only ones who benefit from this war.

Referring to the Afghan issue, the USSR ambassador expressed Moscow's desire to find a solution to this issue as soon as possible. He also hinted at the possibility of the Soviet forces' withdrawal from Afghanistan, pointing out that Moscow is preparing a formula to guarantee the noninfiltration of weapons into Afghanistan after the Soviet withdrawal. He explained that Moscow's policy is marked by noninterference in Afghanistan's domestic affairs, and that Moscow wants the others to guarantee this after the Soviet withdrawal.

Regarding the U.S. strategic defense plan, known as "star wars," Zinchuk said that the general thrust of the recent CPSU congress was the achievement of peace in the world by reducing nuclear arms. He added that nuclear disarmament should begin with a moratorium on nuclear tests and on developing these arms. He pointed out that the United States did not respond to the Soviet peace efforts but, on the contrary, has adopted the concept of "star wars" weapons, which it is currently preparing. He said that the invention of such weapons is impossible and is a waste of time and money.

Army Chief Commander Receives Canadian Official

JN270708 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Amman — Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, received in his office at the General Command this morning Nigel Brodeur, deputy chief of defence staff of the Canadian Forces, who is currently visiting Jordan. Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, the Canadian ambassador, and the Canadian military attache attended the meeting.

Amman TV Notes U.S. Reaction to 'Arafat's Remarks

JN271048 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] In response to a question on the truth behind PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's statement that he was still awaiting the U.S. Government's reply to three formulas he had submitted to the U.S. side with regard to resuming the Middle East peace process, the U.S. official spokesman said: There is nothing new for the U.S. Administration to respond to. The current situation resulted from the PLO's failure to accept UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Reportage on Reaction to U.S., Libyan Conflict

House Denounces 'Aggression'

JN271625 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Amman — During a session it held today, the House of Representatives denounced the U.S. aggression against Libyan territories proceeding from Jordan's pan-Arab belief that any aggression against any part of the Arab homeland is an aggression against it. This denunciation has been circulated among Arab parliaments.

AL-RA'Y on Fleet Withdrawal Proposal

JN280820 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
28 Mar 86 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Yes for Fleet Withdrawal From the Mediterranean"]

[Text] We say yes to Soviet leader Gorbachev's constructive proposal calling for withdrawing U.S. and Soviet fleets from the Mediterranean.

We proudly voice appreciation for the House of Representatives which, in our people's name, denounced the U.S. aggression on fraternal Libya. We frankly and clearly assert that the U.S. Administration has harmed itself and lost much of its prestige as a result of this aggression which was described by U.S. Republican Senator Mark Hatfield as a serious game and an unnecessary confrontation.

This fact cannot be changed by Israel's welcome of the aggression and by Peres' description of it as a smart, responsible action worthy of appreciation. This description is an expression of the terrorist course which Israel believes in and which was and still is a reason for the unrest and tragedies in the region.

Halting the U.S. fleets' provocative maneuvers in the Gulf of Sidra yesterday prior to the scheduled date set for the beginning of next month cannot be viewed as a generous U.S. deed. The U.S. Administration was obliged to halt the maneuvers as a result of the angry reactions which stormed the world, as well as in anticipation of possible ramifications, particularly after the strong Italian intervention in its capacity as the country whose harbors host the 6th Fleet.

It is evident that international firmness is capable of curbing U.S. haughtiness and that the belief by some that U.S. will is superior in the international arena has now become just a mere legend.

It should be remembered that halting these maneuvers does not end the problem. The problem can actually be ended by responding to the Soviet leader's proposal calling for withdrawing the U.S. and Soviet fleets from the Mediterranean, especially since the two superpowers are not littoral countries of the Mediterranean.

Since the U.S. Administration has not paid attention to this proposal, the many dangers posed by the intensified U.S. military presence in the Mediterranean will continue to exist. The region's countries should be alert and should struggle together to remove this presence threatening peace.

Group Claims Rocket Attack on U.S. Embassy Annex

NC281042 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1015 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Three Energa anti-tank rockets were fired early today at an empty annex of the U.S. Embassy in West Beirut. The annex is only 200 meters from the main building. A spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in 'Awkar refused to confirm or deny the attack.

An unidentified person claiming to be speaking on behalf of the 'Umar al-Mukhtar unit of the National Revolutionary Command [al-qiyadah al-qawmiyah al-thawriyah], told Voice of Lebanon that the group is responsible for the attack.

Karami Condemns U.S., Israeli Attacks

NC271347 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Statement by Prime Minister Rashid Karami on 27 March; place not given — recorded]

[Text] I flatly condemn the U.S. 6th Fleet's attacks on Libyan territorial waters and in the Gulf of Sidra. The whole world recognizes that we support international charters and laws forbiding any big state to attack small states. Therefore, we support Libya in its present circumstances. We expect the Security Council and the peace-loving states of the world to endorse Libya's actions in its defense and in defense of its waters.

I have received the Soviet charge d'affaires, who conveyed to me a message on these matters.

Israel's arrogance and its continued attacks against the south and other parts of Lebanon are no surprise to us. Israel tries to exploit every opportunity and situation, particularly if the United States is involved. The timing of the arrogance displayed in the Gulf of Sidra and the attacks on the camps and on south Lebanon is an indication that aggression is second nature to some people who do not want to respect the rights of big or small states. However, none of this will alter our views. We will continue our policy and course. We will defend our sovereignty and bring about a total withdrawal from our blessed land.

Action Committee Denounces Israeli Attack

NC271448 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] During its meeting today, the National Action Committee denounced the Israeli attack on the outskirts of Sidon and called for the continuation of the liberation process and the rejection of any security arrangements with Israel. The committee also warned against attempts to undermine the strike force and distort its security and patriotic role.

Explosion 'Completely Destroys' Israeli Vehicle

NC271931 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The National Resistance Front issued a statement this evening announcing that its fighters detonated a 60-kg explosive charge on the 'Ayn Majdalayn junction, between Kafr Huna and Jazzin, as an Israeli intelligence officer was driving past in a Mercedes vehicle, accompanied by a military jeep. The explosion completely destroyed the Israeli officer's vehicle and caused the jeep to overturn on the roadside, where it caught fire. Immediately afterwards, RPG's and light weapons were used to attack those who remained alive.

Syrian Forces Engaged in Al-Matn Fighting

Army Says 'Regular Forces' Involved

NC271738 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Syrian Social Nationalist Party sources have reported that the party's fighters today destroyed four Army tanks and another vehicle that was seen burning on Tamraz Hill. The sources accused the Army of shelling the party's advance position in Al-'Ayrun from its positions on Tamraz Hill.

In a statement issued today, a Lebanese Army source said that an anti-tank rocket was fired at noon at an Army armored personnel carrier on the Al-Dawwar front. The source said that the militias do not possess such anti-tank weapons. The rocket was fired at the armored personnel carrier on the Al-Dawwar front. This means that regular forces are openly involved in the Lebanese war.

Syria 'Reveals True Intentions'

NC272315 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2115 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Statement by the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee — date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] Syria has once again revealed its true intentions by shelling the eastern areas. At various times it has attempted to subjugate these areas by using methods of incitement and intimidation but it has failed; it has also failed to persuade the Lebanese factions to confront the eastern areas.

Having first paved the way by escalating the political situation, Syria has, since last Monday, deliberately escalated the military situation, and committed terrible acts of aggression against defenseless citizens.

The Lebanese Forces Executive Committee has made a full examination of the dimensions of this escalation by the Syrian forces, and has noted that it came as a direct result of their failure to turn the ongoing war into a war among the Lebanese in order to justify their presence in Arab and world public opinion. The Executive Committee also noted the connection between the military escalation and the series of explosions in the eastern areas, the latest of which was the booby-trapped car that blew up in the Al-Ashrafiyah area last Wednesday. After a careful study of all aspects of the situation, and in light of continuing endeavors to reach a solution to the current dispute that would be in the interests of all the Lebanese, and that would safeguard the independence and sovereignty of Lebanon, the Lebanese Forces wish to stress the following:

1. The II Corps of Syrian artillery, comprising the artillery units of the 51st, 85th, and 62nd Brigades, in addition to the 122d Regiment of field artillery, particularly the 10th Mechanized Division, and the special units of the 41st Regiment, all of which are stationed in the upper Al-Matn and central Al-Biqa' areas, have pounded residential areas, leaving dozens of defenseless victims.

2. The Syrian motive behind the shelling is to induce the Lebanese Forces to return fire against the residential areas facing them. However, the Lebanese forces did not fall into this trap.

3. While stressing their eagerness for dialogue as the only way to achieve national reconciliation, and their determination to find a peaceful solution to the country's crisis, the Lebanese forces call on all Lebanese leaders in general, and on Islamic and nationalist leaders in particular, to shoulder their responsibilities toward the homeland, and to work to put a stop to the cycle of violence and destruction.

4. Throughout the crisis, Syria has tried to impose a unilateral solution and hinder the use of Arab and international good offices to end our dilemma. With this attitude, Syria sought to tighten its control over Lebanon, and undermine its regional and international prestige. It has turned Lebanon into a staging ground for terrorism against the Lebanese people, and against fraternal and friendly states. Therefore, the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee would like to announce the following:

1. The Lebanese Forces have resolved to respond to, and take part in, any cease-fire. The Lebanese Forces have always done this in the past, and will do so in the future.

2. The Lebanese Forces appeal to all factions in Lebanon to close ranks in order to face the current state of degeneration in a bid to launch a comprehensive national dialogue.

3. The Lebanese Forces call for the immediate convocation of the Arab League to end Syrian aggression against Lebanon.

4. The Lebanese Forces urge all fraternal Arab countries, as well as the international public, to act quickly in order to put a stop to Syrian military activity in Lebanon.

The Lebanese Forces, which always have been a shield in the liberated areas, promise the Lebanese as a whole, and the Christians in particular, that they will stand by their commitment to defend Lebanon and to free all its territory. The Lebanese forces also emphasize that the Lebanese people cling tightly to their liberty and to their rule over the entire country. The Lebanese people have taken a resolute stand to defend these values and they pledge to maintain this attitude, regardless of the price.

'Indiscriminate' Shelling Ends

NC271429 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The intensity of the indiscriminate shelling of villages in upper Al-Matn, northern Al-Matn, and the coastal and mountainous areas of Kasrawan eased at 1510 today, again resumed briefly between 1530 and 1540, and then stopped.

Fighting on the combat lines of Al-'Ayrun, Al-Dawwar, Shrin, and 'Ayn al-Tuffahah is still going on. Villages adjacent to the contact lines in Al-Matn are coming under artillery fire. Three people were reported slightly wounded in upper al-Matn.

Syrians Accuse Army

NC271450 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The security situation flared up on the Al-'Ayrun, Al-Duwwar, Tallat Tamraj, Shrin, Tighrin, and 'Ayn al-Tuffahah combat lines [upper Al-Matn] at 1230 today. Violent clashes with all types of weapons broke out at 1245. Duhur Shuwayr, Zar'un, Al-Mutayn, Bulunya, and Tighrin were subjected to heavy artillery shelling that covered most of northern Al-Matn.

A Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP] source accused the Army of shelling the party's advanced position in Al-'Ayrun from an Army emplacement in Tallat Tamraj. Another SSNP source said this morning that the party's position came under intermittent sniper fire until 1000 when battles with rockets and machineguns took place on the lines of the central sector. The source added that SSNP forces advanced on the southern line and destroyed a position southwest of Al-Duwwar township, thus fully controlling the road junction in the Al-Shilimar area, the Bikfayya-Al-Duwwar road, and B'abdat-Zar'un-Mar Musa road. The source emphasized that the party's forces are still stationed in positions fully controlling Mar Musa township and that the SSNP suffered no casualties.

Meanwhile, a security source has reported that Wadi al-Karm in Biskinta has been coming under intermittent artillery shelling from Al-Zar'ur and Duhur Shuwayr.

'Fierce' Fighting Rekindled

NC271625 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The fighting on the upper al-Matn combat lines appeared to be dying down at 1500 today, but not for long. The situation on this front flared up again at 1630, with fierce fighting taking place on the Al-Dawwar, Al-'Ayrun, Tamraz Hill, Al-Zahriyah, and Salima lines. Rockets and shells have fallen beyond the combat lines in residential areas of the upper Al-Matn townships of Bikfayya, Mar Musa, Al-Dawwar, Bayt Shabab, Dahr al-Sawwan, 'Ayn al-'Alaq, Shimlaya, (Kafr 'Aqab), Wadi al-Karm, Brummana, B'abdat, and Bayt Miri.

The Syrian Social Nationalist Party has issued a statement claiming that its fighters have succeeded in taking control of some positions. However, these claims are unfounded. Observers think that this statement was issued in an attempt to cover up the fact that other forces took part in the military operations.

Artillery Emplacements Destroyed

NC271851 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] According to security reports, a number of 130-mm artillery emplacements in the area of Hammana have been completely destroyed. Other long-range artillery emplacements in Al-Shabaniyah, Bshillama, 'Ayn Tura, Shanayh, Sharun, and Ba'lshmayh were damged. It was from these emplacements, along with others in Qurnayil, Salima, Kafr Silwan, and the Al-Za'rur hills, that shelling was directed at the mountain and coastal areas of Beirut, Al-Matn and Kasrawan. The range of fire was extended in the evening to include Al-Ashrafiyah and Al-Hazimiyah. Several people were killed or wounded as a result. Our correspondents report that in Al-Mudayrij an armored military convoy, along with its ammunition, received direct hits.

Syrians Shell Christian Areas

NC271817 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1645 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The straightforward, honest answer to those who are still wondering who has been, and still is, shelling the Christian residential areas is the following: It is the regular Syrian forces and their agents. They shelled the Kasrawan district and the coastal areas of Al-Matn a short while ago. The Syrians, who claim that they are working to end the state of war, are actively waging a war against the Christian community. They have been shedding Christian blood for 12 years and they are still playing their old game. Whenever they are under internal or regional pressure, they resort to launching a war against the Christians. That is what they are doing now, as a result of the Golan Heights situation and the internal problems they face.

A military source has issued the following statement: An anti-tank rocket was fired at a Lebanese Army armored personnel carrier on the Al-Dawwar front at noon today. It is known that the militias do not have such weapons. This means that regular forces are directly involved in the Lebanese war. Two army personnel were martyred in the rocket attack.

East Calm After Heavy Shelling

NC272153 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
2045 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The eastern areas have been quiet for the last 4 hours, following heavy attack from Syrian, nationalist, and leftist artillery and rocket launchers. Four people were killed and many others wounded; there was also serious material damage.

Hizballah Official Discusses Mideast Issues

NC271504 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Hizballah official Subhi al-Tufayli described West Beirut's strike force as lacking in both seriousness and effectiveness. In an interview in tomorrow's issue of *MAGAZINE*, he said that those who are supposed to be protecting the population in West Beirut are themselves responsible for the deterioration in security there. Al-Tafayli emphasized that Hizballah will not take part in this force until it is fully convinced its effectiveness.

In answer to a question on the issue of the hostages and missing persons in West Beirut, Al-Tufayli said that those under attack have a right to react. He assailed France and the United States for their support of Iraq, and declared that France had not acted correctly toward Iran. However, he denied any connection between Hizballah and Iran. He expressed the view that the Syrians are not planning to fight Hizballah because the latter's strategy is, in the end, compatible with Syria's. Finally, he stated that the Syrians know that Hizballah does not create problems.

Bank of Lebanon Decides To Devalue Pound

NC271402 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The governors of the Bank of Lebanon have decided to reduce the price of the Lebanese pound by 16.35 percent. The price of the U.S. dollar will, therefore, be between 22.5 and 23 pounds, an increase of 3.55 pounds. The average price will be 22.75 pounds, according to the Bank of Lebanon's bulletin.

Speaker Al-Husayni Returns From Rabat Visit

NC271833 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni was not surprised by Israel's actions. He has called for an escalation of resistance operations against Israel, stating that the only option for the Lebanese lies in a struggle against occupation, a commitment to international resolutions, and insistence on their implementation.

Speaker al-Husayni returned to Beirut today after visiting Rabat, where he took part in an Arab-African conference. He likened the Middle East to a volcano about to erupt, and added that Lebanon is part of this region.

Further Reaction Reported to U.S.-Libya Clashes

Support Sought From APU, Parliaments

JN271631 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu‘bi has sent cables to the Arab Parliamentary Union and Arab parliaments condemning and denouncing the U.S. aggression and the U.S. naval and air fleets' provocative acts off the Libyan Arab coast, such as the bombing of ships and the killing of their passengers and the shelling of positions on the Libyan mainland which resulted in human and material losses. These cables call for a united stand by the Arab parliaments expressing solidarity with fraternal Libya and making the aggressors realize that their aggression against our Arab nation will not go unpunished.

Al-Zu‘bi also sent a cable to the IPU secretary general calling for the inclusion of the U.S. aggression against Libya on the agenda of the IPU conference to be held in Mexico in April. The cable was accompanied by a detailed memo on this subject to be circulated among all the world's parliaments to help include this subject at the Mexico conference so that a resolution will be adopted condemning this flagrant aggression.

Foreign Ministry Briefs Envoys

JN271343 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has summoned its ambassadors in India, the SFRY, Afghanistan, Iran, Indonesia, Pakistan, Vietnam, Cuba, Argentina, Greece, Cyprus, Italy, and Spain and acquainted them with the dimensions of the U.S. aggression on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and with its impact on the world security and peace. This aggression is considered a direct aggression against Syria and the Arab nation as well as a threat to all peace and freedom loving peoples. The ambassadors were also informed that the Syrian Government has decided to call for the convening of the UN Security Council to discuss the serious siutation stemming from this aggression and to take measures to deter it. The ambassadors were also requested to ensure that the countries to which they are assigned take part in the Security Council's debate, condemn the aggression and explain its dangers.

Speaker Steadfast With Counterpart

JN271355 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu‘bi has cabled the General People's Congress in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah affirming the People's Assembly's absolute solidarity with the fraternal Libyan Arab people in their heroic steadfastness against the pirates of the 20th century. The cable also stressed the assembly's denunciation of the treacherous U.S. aggression against Libya, an aggression against the Arab nation and a threat to security in the Mediterranean and to world peace.

A People's Assembly delegation led by Isma‘il ‘Abd al-Ghani, deputy chairman of the committee for Arab and foreign relations, and comprising a number of committee and People's Assembly members, this afternoon visited the Libyan Arab relations bureau in Damascus and submitted a copy of this cable to ‘Abd al-Qadir al-Urfali, official in charge of the Libyan Arab Relations Bureau in Damascus.

Arab Will 'Strong, Firm'

JN271330 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The current military, political, and moral battle in the Arab Gulf of Sidra is not only a battle over a piece of land or an expanse of water but is also part of a comprehenisve war that has been going on for some time between the Arab will, which desires liberation, emancipation, and the realization of pan-Arab rights, and the imperialist will, which endeavors to spread its influence and domination and impose racist, liquidationist plans in the region.

The Arab will, which today appears strong and firm over the waters of the Gulf of Sidra, derives its firmness and strength from the Arab masses, from the Arab nationalist and progressive forces led by Syria, and from the sincere friends in the socialist bloc and the Third World. The imperialist will and the U.S. war machine of aggression have this time chosen the Gulf of Sidra as an arena in which they can flex their military muscles and intensify their pressures on our Arab nation. Whether the United States chooses this gulf or any other Arab area, the Arab and world masses' stand on the U.S. aggression, parades, and threats will not change because the aims of the aggression are the same. They are based on the same strategy; namely, serving the Zionist plans, striking at the pan-Arab aspirations, disintegrating Arab resources, and imposing capitulation solutions and settlements on the Arabs.

What has been going on in the Gulf of Sidra for the past 4 days greatly reduces the status and the prestige of a superpower in this world, making it a side or a force that behaves recklessly and irresponsibly and which makes serious decisions without accurate calculations of the dire consequences that would arise from its actions.

As for us, we consider the U.S. reckless, aggressive, and adventurous behavior as natural and expected, whether this behavior occurs in the Gulf of Sidra, Lebanon, or any other Arab area. In our view all those who ally themselves with Zionism and use Israeli terms and phrases in the Middle East are bound to make such reckless decisions,issue empty threats, threaten direct military intervention, and come from the most distant point on the west of the globe to the nearest point on the east of the globe at a time when peoples have become capable of pushing the aggressive fleets and armies back to where they come from.

The sounds we hear from certain NATO countries in support of the U.S. aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriyah is the sound of Zionism and defeated imperialism in many parts of the world.

The aggressors came to the Arab Gulf of Sidra to commit aggression, threaten, and brandish their weapons in order to frighten our Arab nation and its progressive forces. But they will go back in frustration. The Arab will, which triumphed against their aggression in more than one area, will triumph over them in the Gulf of Sidra because it is the will of the struggling masses of our people. Israel and Zionism will only reap what they reaped from previous abortive imperialist battles. We do not want to recall these battles because our enemies are perfectly aware of what the Arab resistance and steadfastness have done to their war machine, projects, and expansionist and liquidationist plans.

We are lying in wait for all our enemies. Our blows have been painful to them in the past and will be more painful to them now and in the future because we are defending just causes with all our firm determination. We will not stop until we have wrested victory and restored all the usurped Arab rights.

AL-BA'TH Assails U.S. 'Injustice'

JN271329 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 27 Mar 86

[From the Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Libya is not alone", the newspaper *AL-BA'TH* in its editorial says: Once again, the United States opens fire on our Arab homeland and has launched an armed aggression on the Libyan land and people. Some 2 years after the U.S. fragrant use of warships and fleets against Lebanon, Libya becomes the new target for the dirty U.S. military arm which has carried out the first round of the crimes of bombing, killing, and destruction against the Libyan coasts. While the new provocations in the Gulf of Sidra are a reminder of the crime of the Gulf of Tonkin which Washington used as a pretext for the military aggression on Vietnam, have the decision makers at the White House forgotten the results of the rude intervention in Vietnam and how Vietnam became a deep psychological complex causing the American people to reject any interference in others' affairs and to resist military involvement everywhere and for whatever reason?

AL-BA'TH wonders: How can the U.S. maneuvers be viewed in a good light while they coincide with the Israeli escalation of tension in the region and its direct threats to Syria? These maneuvers and this serious escalation cause tension, create a volatile atmosphere, and are a source of anxiety to the whole world. The United States imagines that its actions might direct attention away from Israel's aggressive preparation against Syria, leaving Israel free to carry out its premeditated strike in another direction.

The newspaper continues: These attempts will not succeed because Syria is vigilant, aware and has the ability and means to reply appropriately to any provocation or adventure. The U.S. Administration is mistaken if it imagines that the current Arab situation and the deteriorating Arab relations allow it to launch political and military attacks to impose its will and control. It is ignorance if the U.S. officials understand the Arab situation in this way. Recent and past experience proved that although the Arabs might differ on many issues they adopt a unified stand in confronting U.S.-Israeli aggression on any Arab country. The aggressive adventure against Libya is not supported by any Arab voice.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Libya is not and will not be alone because Syria, all Arab countries, and the forces of liberation and peace in the world are alongside Libya. Reagan is deluded if he considers directing a strike at Libya without creating a comprehensive explosion that would open more than one front against the U.S.-Israeli alliance and against all U.S. interests and relations. The fire of revolution is sweeping the Arab nation with unlimited speed and will not be affected by flowery words that try to ignore this fact. Only the United States will be fully responsible for its new aggressive adventure and for its grave consequences. Injustice always harms those who cause it.

USSR Claims No Knowledge of Syrian Military Group

GF271518 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 26 Mar 86 p 1

["Exclusive" report from Moscow]

[Text] *AL-ANBA'* has learned from Arab diplomatic sources that a high-ranking Syrian military delegation arrived in Moscow 2 days ago. However, the sources did not disclose the type of mission the delegation was making on this visit.

In reply to a question by *AL-ANBA'* on the truth of this information, official Soviet spokesman Valeriy Sukhin said that the press department at the USSR Foreign Ministry has no knowledge of this.

Another Round of Tabah Talks Ends Without Progress

TA271825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Report by Aharon Barne'a]

[Text] Another round of talks between Israel and Egypt on the issue of the arbitration over Tabah and the resumption of the normalization between the two countries has ended in Tel Aviv, and the bottom line is that no progress was made. The delegations decided to hold a brief meeting in Cairo next week. There is still no decision to pass the final decision on the more difficult issues, over which there is no agreement between Israel and Egypt, to the political echelons.

We have learned that in the last meeting held in Cairo last week some progress was made, because both Israel and Egypt favored a U.S. compromise proposal. However, in the current round of talks held in Tel Aviv, the Egyptians went back on their agreement of last week and hardened their position somewhat.

The last session, which was held this afternoon, was very short. One of the two Israeli delegation heads, David Kimche, the director general of the Foreign Ministry, did not even attend this meeting. On the central issues, regarding the most difficult problem, which is what questions will be posed by the two sides to the arbiter, there is no agreement and no progress, and these issues will be pursued in Cairo next week.

Talks 'on Verge' of Deadlock

TA270859 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 27 Mar 86 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] The talks between the Israeli and Egyptian teams of directors general on settling the Tabah crisis are on the verge of a deadlock. The Egyptian delegation reneged on its decision to agree to the U.S. compromise proposal on the formulation of the question to be submitted to the arbiter concerning the placement of the border stones.

Upon the resumption of the talks yesterday in Tel Aviv, it became apparent to the heads of the Israeli delegation — Avraham Tamir, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, and Dr David Kimche, the director general of the Foreign Ministry — that the heads of the Egyptian delegation had reverted back to examining Egyptian versions of the question to be put to the arbiter in spite of the fact that these had been rejected outright during earlier rounds of talks in Cairo and Herzliyya.

Tamir Maintains Progress Made

TA280615 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Avraham Tamir, head of the Tabah talks delegation, countered statements Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir made yesterday — that no progress was made in the talks with Egypt — by saying that remarkable progress could be observed, and that the situation must not be termed "critical." He noted at the same time that several issues will most probably be brought to the political echelon for a decision, "but this should not be regarded as a catastrophe." Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin is demanding an urgent Inner Cabinet session on the matter for fear that Egypt's domestic woes may adversely affect chances of improving bilateral relations in the absence of an agreement on the arbitral compromis.

The eighth round of talks ended yesterday, and in light of developments in the subcommittee dealing with the formulation of the arbitral compromis, it was decided to hold another round of talks in Cairo with the participation of lawyers from both sides. Tamir, who will accompany the prime minister to the United States, will not participate in this round, and it looks as though Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche will also not attend. It is believed that this will be the last round before the dispute is brought before the Inner Cabinet.

Shamir Comments on Katyusha Attack, Tabah Talks

TA271150 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that the IDF has the means to prevent the terrorists from striking at the northern settlements. Yitzhaq Shamir considers the National Resistance Front responsible for the attack on the Galilee Panhandle, and has issued a warning to its members. Yitzhaq Shamir was in Migdal Ha'emeq today where he attended a memorial service for Ronen Malka, a soldier who fell in the Lebanese war. He also toured the moshav of Alon Hagalil. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports from there:

[Begin recording] [Zohar] Symbolically, on the day when residents of Qiryat Shemona were injured from katyusha rocket fire, a memorial service was held in Migdal Ha'emeq for Ronen Malka who was killed in a clash with a terrorist squad in the security zone. Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said at the memorial service that the peace that Israel wanted to attain in the area where Ronen was killed has been maliciously torn to shreds by the National Resistance Front in Lebanon. Yitzhaq Shamir issued a warning to this movement, which he also considers responsible for the firing of katyusha rockets this morning.

[Shamir] The IDF and the State of Israel are doing and will do everything to bring these attacks to an end before they increase. We have the means to do this and prevent these criminal attacks from recurring. We have heard that these acts are being perpetrated by what is called in Lebanon the National Resistance Movement. This distorted resistance movement that fights and harms the interests of the residents of Lebanon must be prevented from continuing its activity.

[Zohar] Do you mean even beyond the method currently employed — that is, the security zone?

[Shamir] The IDF will find the most suitable way to put an end to these terrorist acts.

[Zohar] On another issue — the Tabah talks — the foreign minister said that if the sides do not reach agreement today, the parties may have to consider other ways to resolve the Tabah question.

[Shamir] I do not know what they will decide this evening. Either they will see a chance for the continuation of the talks in the form they have taken so far, or perhaps they will take a break in order to transfer the decision on the continuation to the Israeli and Egyptian Governments. [end recording]

Peres Demands Coalition Unity in State Budget Vote

TA271014 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The prime minister has informed the coalition that he firmly demands that all members without exception vote for the state budget when it comes to the vote on Monday; otherwise the government will cease to exist. He emphasized that the arguments must stop because the people ought to know what they are to expcet this year. Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli reports that Mr Peres was speaking at a meeting of the coalition members in the Knesset.

Rabin Says IDF To Pursue Terrorists 'Everywhere'

TA271830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1730 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin visited the town of Shelomi in the western Galilee this afternoon. He said that the IDF will continue to pursue the terrorists and will catch them in the end. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar brings an excerpt of the defense minister's remarks:

[Begin recording] [Rabin] I believe that in the 9 or 10 months which have passed since the IDF implemented the government's decision and completed its redeployment, we were able — not without difficulties and casualties in the IDF — to reach our goal, to provide security for our border settlements and the residents of the north. I believe that we will succeed in demonstrating to those who live in southern Lebanon that they will not be able to lead normal lives if we cannot live normally here, in demonstrating to the terrorist organizations that we will give them no freedom of action. We will search for them and pursue them everywhere, and we will catch them. [end recording]

Herzog, Wilner Meet, Discuss Israel-USSR Relations

TA280850 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by Gid'on Alon]

[Text] President Hayim Herzog yesterday talked with the HADASH secretary, Knesset Member [MK] Me'ir Wilner, on the possibility of a renewal of diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union.

During the meeting, which was held at the president's residence at Herzog's initiative, MK Wilner, who recently returned from Moscow where he participated the the CPSU Congress, said that in his opinion chances for a change in the Kremlin's attitude toward Israel exist only if Israel agrees to an international conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations and with the participation of PLO representatives.

The president's spokesman, 'Ami Glusqa, said last night that the meeting between Herzog and MK Wilner was held in the framework of the meetings the president is holding with the leaders of the Knesset factions. According to him, this is not the first time the president has met with MK Wilner.

Lubrani on UNIFIL, Terrorism in S. Lebanon

TA280717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Regarding developments in the north, what is more worrisome than a katyusha hitting a school is that IDF officers in the north are saying that it is not clear for the moment whether there has been a change in the terrorists' policy in southern Lebanon. Uri Lubrani, coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, has said that despite the katyusha firing, our element of deterrence has been preserved. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal is in the studio:

The security establishment is keeping a worried watch over the strengthening of the terrorists in the western sector, as well as elsewhere, and the demand is also being made to make it clear to the terrorists and the inhabitants of the south that Israel will not permit them to become any stronger. The IDF is also keeping an interested watch over the terrorists' attempts to launch katyushas. The assumption is that they will act whenever they can and that yesterday's firing does not signal a change in this policy.

The coordinator of the government's activities in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, says the fact that the terrorists are firing katyushas does not mean they are no longer afraid of a reaction.

[Begin Lubrani recording] In my opinion, an Israeli deterrent factor exists. The residents of southern Lebanon — I am not speaking about the security zone, but about the inhabitants of southern Lebanon — know very well that if Israel reacts on a massive scale, there will be great destruction there. There are certainly elements who are interested in preventing hostile activity against us from within this area. The trouble is that these elements are incapable of controlling the entire area. If it turns out that we cannot maintain a normal life along our northern border, I am very much afraid that the people in southern Lebanon will have to realize that they cannot maintain normal lives either. [end recording]

[Tal] Uri Lubrani says there is a UNIFIL force positioned in the area from which yesterday's katyusha was fired. The international force must show greater involvement in preventing acts of terrorism.

[Begin Lubrani recording] We know that UNIFIL's ability has great limitations, but the fact is that yesterday's firing came from an area which was once included in the security zone. At a certain stage last summer it was transferred; the army of southern Lebanon left the area and it was handed over to the local inhabitants, on the assumption that they would see to it that there would not be any actions against us from that area. It is a fact that there is activity against us, and that the area was once inside the security zone and is now outside the security zone, with UNIFIL positioned there. [end recording]

UNIFIL Protests Remarks

TA281227 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] The UN headquarters in southern Lebanon is protesting fiercely about remarks made by the coordinator of activities in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, which linked the Irish battalion with the katyusha rocket that fell on Qiryat Shemona yesterday. This morning Lubrani commented that the rocket had been fired from an area in which a unit of Irish soldiers is positioned. One of the commanders of the Irish battalion told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that this is a groundless slander and his country's Ministry of Defense has promised him to submit a sharp diplomatic protest to Israel.

Israeli security establishment sources have explained that Lubrani's remarks were not aimed against the Irish battalion, but against the UN force's mandate, which keeps the force from acting even when its soldiers uncover terrorist actions being organized.

Yahad-Labor Unification Moves Allegedly Halted

TA271903 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] 'Ezer Weizman and leaders of the Yahad political party have decided to stop their moves toward unification with the Labor Party, this according to a Voice of Israel reporter. The unification was due to take place before the Labor Party conference in 2 weeks' time. Members of Yahad have asked for a postponement until the future of the rotation agreement between Prime Minister Peres and Vice Premier Shamir becomes clear.

Arms-Laden Ship Loaded in Ashdod Detained in Crete

TA280528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] A ship carrying arms, ammunition, and a helicopter from Israel to Portugal has been detained in Crete according to reports from Greece. The reports say the captain told authorities the weapons were loaded in Ashdod. The ship's papers showed its destination as Portugal, Guatemala, and several South American countries. On board were 280 tons of ammunition and explosives, 24 submachineguns, and a helicopter. The ship was detained after Greek Coast Guard members saw crew members painting over the name of the vessel.

Israeli defense sources say the matter is under investigation.

Defense Sources Purport Arms Legal

TA280858 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 28 Mar 86 p 2

[Report by Hayim Ravya, and REUTER]

[Excerpts] Greek authorities yesterday detained a ship that was on its way from Israel to Latin America carrying a cargo purchased in Israel that included a helicopter, submachineguns, and explosives. The police are interrogating the ship's Greek captain and its crew, which includes seven Turks, one Austrian, and three Filipinos.

It emerges from an investigation conducted by the Israeli defense establishment that the military equipment found on board the ship had been sold legally, and was accompanied by all the necessary documents. Sources in the defense establishment said that it is not clear why the seamen were trying to change the name of the ship.

The ship, which weighs 3,000 tons, is registered in the Cayman Islands, and is owned by a Haifa company.

Sharon Transfers $30 Million to Judaea, Samaria

TA280550 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] The Knesset Finance Committee has permitted Minister of Trade Ari'el Sharon to transfer $30 million from a budget allocated to development areas to a budget for Judaea and Samaria. Labor-Alignment members of the Finance Committee tried to prevent this, but the decision was passed by the committee four votes to two.

ASL Forces Searching for Katyusha Attackers

TA271522 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1414 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Army of Southern Lebanon [ASL] forces this afternoon returned fire toward the area from which the katyusha was fired at Qiryat Shemona. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz was told by Lebanese sources that the ASL soldiers are conducting searches in southern Lebanon in a bid to apprehend the terrorists who launched the rocket.

Bomb Explosion Kills ASL Soldier, Wounds Another

TA280927 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0924 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] This morning a soldier from the army of southern Lebanon was killed and another soldier was wounded in a roadside bomb explosion near the village of Al-Tayibah in the security zone in Lebanon. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that several more roadside bombs were discovered in the course of searches.

Security Forces Detain 2 Nabulus Students

TA280814 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] During the night two students from the Nabulus Al-Najah University were put under administrative detention. This has been reported by our correspondent in Judaea and Samaria Arye Gus. One of the detainees is Khalil Ibrahim Hasan (al-Shur), chairman of the university student union. Security sources have told our correspondent that the detainees are activists in the Fatah organization. Our correspondent adds that the security forces have made many preventive detentions in preparation for Land Day in order to prevent disruptions to the peace the day after tomorrow, 30 March.

Court Sentences Two Terrorists to Life in Prison

TA271511 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1443 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The military court in Gaza today sentenced two Gaza terrorists to life imprisonment. The two, Mattar al-Hur and Abu Jum'a, were members of a Fatah ring responsible for the murde of two Israelis, Salomon Abu Qassis and Menahem Dadon, in 1983. Our correspondent Ilan ben-Dor reports that in their trial the two terrorists admitted the charges and did not voice any regrets. The ring had been operating in the Gaza Strip from 1982 until it was uncovered by the security forces at the end of November 1985.

ALGERIA

APS Reports Bendjedid Talks With Gorbachev

LD271122 Algiers APS in English 1030 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow, 27/03/86 (APS) — On the second day of his official visit to the Soviet Union, President Chadli [Bendjedid] held tete-a-tete talks with the secretary general of the Soviet Communist Party, Mikhail Gorbachev. Later, the talks were enlarged to bring in the two delegations.

The two sides exchanged views on the socio-economic development process in both countries in the light of the F.L.N. party extraordinary congress and the 27th congress of the Soviet Communist Party. The two sides voiced satisfaction over the development of bilateral cooperation. They expressed willingness to further strengthen relations and contemplated new cooperation prospects.

The two delegations took stock of the international situation and analyzed the causes of tension in the world. They further examined regional conflicts particularly in Africa, the Middle-East, the Gulf region and the Mediterranean. The two sides also surveyed the world economic situation.

Parallel to these talks, encounters took place at the ministerial level. In this respect, Foreign Affairs minister, Dr Ahmed Taleb [Ibrahimi] conferred with his Soviet counterpart, Shevardnadze. Energy Minister Belkacem Nabi held talks with the Soviet Industry Oil and Gas minister [as received], Mr Chirskov.

Finance minister and co-president of the Joint Algero-Soviet Commission conferred with Mr Katochev, head of the State Commission for External Economic Relations and co-chairman of the Joint Algero-Soviet Commission.

Abderrezak Bouhara, member of the Permanent Secretariat in charge of external relations and Abdelaziz Ziari, head of the People's National Assembly Commission for Education, Culture and Social Affairs also held talks with their counterparts in the Soviet government.

Foreign Minister's Statement

LD272104 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Mar 86

["Statement" by Algerian Foreign Affairs Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi to unidentified radio correspondent in Moscow; date not specified -- recorded]

[Text] [Words indistinct] the Soviet Union has now been crowned with the signing of a long-term agreement (?which defines) the landmarks of the history of Algerian-Soviet cooperation [words indistinct] and defines the sectors of this cooperation, particularly energy, iron and steel, [words indistinct] and scientific research. The document signed by the brother president with Mr Gorbachev entails two agreements: The first is an economic agreement signed by the brother finance minister with his Soviet counterpart [words indistinct] containing the Soviet Union's (?participation) in the completion of several projects within Algeria's development plan. There is another agreement — which is political — which aims at organizing consultations between the two foreign ministers. In fact, this agreement [words indistinct] consultations [words indistinct] and complements the protocol of agreement on consultation and cooperation between the FLN Party and the CPSU. These are the three agreements which were signed today.

As for the talks, they were held in an atmosphere of friendship and cooperation. The brother president and Mr Gorbachev [words indistinct] total readiness and understanding. The talks dealt with bilateral relations in many spheres — economic, technical, and military. They also dealt with international issues, including the Middle East, Africa, [words indistinct]. With regard to the Middle East, the two sides reaffirmed [words indistinct]. The talks also dealt with the [words indistinct] the Iraq-Iran war [words indistinct] particularly what is taking place in southern Africa. The two sides reaffirmed their solidarity with the liberation movements in Namibia and southern Africa, and with the confrontation states. They decided to cooperate in preparations for the next session of the United Nations devoted to economic problems in Africa. As for the question of the Sahara, the two sides reaffirmed their support for the UN [word indistinct] resolution which calls on both sides engaged in the fighting in our Arab Maghreb to conduct negotiations in order to arrive at a peaceful solution for this war. [passage indistinct]

Relations Termed 'Excellent'

LD280428 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The 3d day of the official visit by brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the party, and the delegation accompanying him to the Soviet Union has been marked by the holding of private talks between the president and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU, and by the signing in the Kremlin of a long-term program for economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation.

On his part, Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, signed with Eduard Shevardnadze, his Soviet counterpart, a protocol concerning Algerian-Soviet consultations.

An agreement on economic cooperation was signed by Mr Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and by brother Abdelaziz Khellef, finance minister. The signing ceremony was attended by Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union and member of the Politburo; Nikolay Ryzhkov, Soviet prime minister and member of the Politburo, together with several other CPSU leaders.

It is worth mentioning that the talks by the members of the two delegations were devoted to a review of the world situation, particularly issues of common interest. Both sides examined the tense situation in the world, and during their detailed study of the situation in the Middle East they stressed that any search for a just and lasting peace must include the full participation of the

PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, so that they may exercise their right to self-determination and to setting up their own independent state.

In studying the situation in South Africa, the two sides expressed their support for the struggle being waged by the South African and Namibian peoples and condemned the threats to neighboring countries. They also discussed the economic difficulties faced by Africa.

Concerning bilateral relations, both sides noted with satisfaction the excellent state of Algerian-Soviet relations of friendship and cooperation, and voiced a common desire to deepen them in all areas.

Prime Minister Views Joint Projects With Libya

LD271026 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi will talk about the economic cooperation sectors which the Algerian-Libyan talks dealt with, and why Algeria is committed to regional economic integration:

[Begin Brahimi recording] There was joint agreement on establishing coordination between the central planning bodies of the two countries in order to compare the content of development plans for the two countries and define fields of possible cooperation. We also decided to set up a certain number of joint companies. I can mention for example the creation of a joint geophysics company which will be active in both countries, particularly in Libya. We also decided to set up a joint hydrocarbon research and prospecting company, a joint hydraulic drilling company, as well as a joint construction company.

We also accepted the Libyan proposal to build jointly a gas pipeline between Algeria and Libya to supply our fraternal, neighboring country with natural gas for domestic use in Tripoli and other towns [words indistinct] as well as for industrial consumption. [end recording]

PDRY Foreign Minister Brings Message for Bendjedid

LD271817 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau of the Yemeni Socialist Party and foreign minister arrived in Algiers tonight.

He was welcomed on arrival at Houari Boumedienne International Airport by Salah Sadek Zouaten, member of the Permanent Secretariat of the party's Central Committee in charge of friendship and solidarity with peoples, and a number of senior officials from the Foreign Ministry.

The Yemeni foreign minister explained in a statement to the press that he is carrying a message from the Yemeni president to President Chadli Benjedid.

Qatari Paper: Preparations for Possible Israeli Raid

GF270924 Doha QNA in Arabic 0830 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Doha, 27 Mar (QNA) — Press reports in Doha today say that Algeria has adopted a number of security measures following the Israeli raid on Tunisia, and following information that indicates that the Israeli enemy intends to make a similar strike on Algerian territory.

The Qatari newspaper *AL-RAYAH* says that Algeria has discussed this matter with Arab parties including the PLO, some of whose forces are stationed in Algeria, Libya, and Tunisia, in view of the joint borders among them.

The newspaper adds that along with these preparations, Algeria has redeployed the Palestinian forces in eastern Algeria to other areas in the south and west which are beyond the reach of the Israeli Air Force. Algeria also has contacted a number of European countries, primarily France, in order to purchase modern radar that is capable of covering all its territory. A sophisticated French radar system has been chosen and will arrive in Algeria shortly.

The paper points out that Algeria has established a joint military operations room with Libya in order to exchange information and monitor the shores and airspace near the two countries.

Algeria also has sought to strengthen its air defense system by purchasing modern Soviet SAM missiles in order to defend its strategic targets and important areas.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi To Hold News Conference 28 Mar

NC281213 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1150 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will hold a news conference today. The time and place of the conference have not yet been disclosed.

Libyan spokesman Mustafa Sadiq said that this will be Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's first meeting with journalists since the United States withdrew from the Gulf of Sidra.

Sadiq refused to give the time and place of the press conference. Col al-Qadhdhafi often changes his mind at the last minute when appearing in public. It has been claimed that the Libyan leader will sail on a Libyan gunboat in the Gulf of Sidra to ridicule the departing U.S. fleet.

Al-Qadhdhafi, Syria's Al-Asad Discuss Situation

LD271417 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad was in telephone contact this morning with the brother leader of the revolution to learn more on the situation regarding the confrontation with the United States.

VOGAH Commentary on Victory Over Imperialism

LD271717 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1515 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] In their efforts to dominate the world and create colonial empires, the colonialist powers pay no regard to the rights of peoples to live freely. Indeed, they act as though these peoples do not exist or if they do, they do not deserve to be alive and should merely be consumers of the colonial powers' manufactured goods and providers of the raw materials for the colonial powers' industries. As a result of their fight for domination, the colonial powers sparked off two frightful world wars from 1914-18 and from 1939-45. Before and after these two major wars, they also sparked off several other wars no less frightful than the two world wars.

Although the allies were victorious over Germany in World War II, they were also exhausted. This paved the way for another imperialist power, the United States, to enter the field of rivalry with the traditional colonial powers over domination and the spreading of influence. The discovery of strategic oil resources in the Middle East prompted the United States to throw its entire weight into this rivalry and it succeeded in becoming the leader of the imperialist colonialist powers that were exhausted by World War II. Thus, the United States gained more than one foothold in Arab lands, if not through direct occupation in the form of military bases, then by means of agent regimes. The United States thus gained bases in the Libyan Arab territory alongside the British military bases.

However, on one of the great moments of destiny, on 1 September, 1969, the idols fell and the agent Sinousi regime collapsed. The British and U.S. bases could not save their agent, Idris Sinousi and his regime, from the revolution of the triumphant people. The expulsion of the British and U.S. military bases from the Libyan Arab territory followed immediately and the Italian community, the last vestige of the fascist invaders, was expelled.

Today, the Libyan Arab people are free people and masters. They are the only people in the world who celebrate three evacuation anniversaries every year: the British bases, the U.S. bases, and the last vestiges of the fascist Italians.

U.S. and British rancor against the Arab people of the Jamahiriyah is due to the triumph of the Arab people of the Jamahiriyah over Britain and France, which led to the eviction of the British and American military bases from the Libyan Arab territory. This rancor was vented by Britain in the form of alignment with U.S. terrorism and repeated harrassment of Libyan Arab students in Britain and also in the form of venomous propaganda campaigns. American rancor vented itself in the form of military provocations and attempts at military and political blockade of the people of the Jamahiriyah.

But the master and sovereign people, who are aware that the task of safeguarding freedom is no less costly than the attainment to freedom, have prepared themselves to defend their freedom. Thus the Arab people of the Jamahiriyah became an armed people and took full and direct control, without proxy, for the defense of their land and gains. For they possess the wealth, the authority, and the arms.

The people are happy today to see how their persistent efforts to transform themselves into an armed people have been justified and necessary. They have scored a glittering victory over the imperialist invaders in the Gulf of Death -- the Gulf of Sidra -- and have risen to the level of being able to match a superpower, the United States of America, which they fought and triumphed over. Their threats to the invaders are now taken seriously because the Libyan people have, in all the decisive situations, been the master whose deeds precede their words.

The people who celebrate three evacuation days every year, cannot ever allow their land to be disgraced by any power in the world. They are determined to defend their land and water, just as they are determined to defend freedom everywhere in the world in line with their pledges to this effect in the document on the proclamation of the people's authority and the establishment of the first Jamahiriyah in history and in the world.

Firmness, Defiance 'Compelled' U.S. To Withdraw

LD272154 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2008 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] AP, AFP, and London radio reported that orders have been issued to the U.S. 6th Fleet to cancel the military exercises opposite the Libyan coast. JANA's political editor commented on this by saying that the orders cancelling the U.S. military exercises opposite the Libyan coast, which were issued by the Pentagon, cannot be interpreted in any other way than that the officials of the U.S. War Ministry [as heard] found themselves compelled to take this decision in view of the firmness of the Libyan Arab attitude and the brave defiance which was translated into acute military confrontation which the Americans did not take into account. They were pushed into a situation whereby continuation of these exercises, as planned, became difficult.

The editor added: The pro-Libyan Arab stance taken by the entire world against the U.S. aggression and provocations had a decisive effect on the cancellation of these exercises. Demonstrations were staged all over the world — beginning in Washington and California, the birthplace of the terrorist Reagan, and then in the entire northern hemisphere — in Paris, Bonn, London, Rome, Athens, Nicosia, Valetta, Prague, Montreal, Madrid, Canberra and from there to the southern hemisphere where the masses marched on the U.S. Embassies in Damascus, Aden, and Karachi to declare their denunciation, defiance, and rejection of the arrogance of the U.S. aggressors. In fact, this denunciation was transformed into acts of violence against the American presence everywhere as the U.S. Embassies in Beirut, Athens, Tokyo, Karachi, and Lahore were shelled.

The JANA political editor concluded his comment by saying: This stance by the peoples of the world against the American attack reaffirms our legitimate sovereignty over the Gulf of Sidra and is a mass international decision acknowledging our sovereignty of this gulf and our right to regard the gulf as part of

Libyan territorial waters. We have thus said and always say: We will die in defense of the Gulf of Sidra.

Tunisian Revolutionaries To Strike U.S. Interests

LD280535 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0327 GMT 28 Mar 86

["Message of support" by unidentified spokesman for the Tunisian revolutionary force — live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brother leader of the 1 September Revolution: Greetings of the revolution and revolutionaries. We, the Tunisian revolutionary force abroad, (?will carry out) the incitation for the destruction of U.S. interests wherever they might be. We declare that we are at your disposal and ready to become suicide squads for blowing up the Reagan fleet, the enemy of the Arab nation, and to color the Gulf of Sidra red with our blood. The fate of anyone who tries to cross into the Gulf of Sidra is death. March forward. The revolutionary and unitary struggle is continuing.

[Signed] The Tunisian Revolutionary (?Force)

Arabs Masses Urged To Destroy U.S. Interests

LD280215 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0149 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The destruction of U.S. interest and targets in the Arab homeland is the responsibility of the Arab masses in every Arab country on whose land these interests and targets exist. It is unreasonable and shames Arab honor that U.S. interests should have any sanctity in any Arab country as long as the United States is committing an aggression against an Arab country. In order for the United States to understand that it can never attack any Arab country isolated from the others, all Arabs everywhere in the Arab homeland should be indignant and angry and suicide cells should destroy U.S. interests whenever the United States commits an aggression against an Arab country.

The U.S. aggression against the people of the Jamahiriyah, which was confronted by the armed people in the Jamahiriyah, should have been strongly confronted by the whole Arab nation. News agencies should have reported urgent cables from all the Arab capitals about the destruction of U.S. interests and about a popular flood throughout the Arab homeland pouring its wrath on Americans, because none of them is an innocent visitor; they are on a spying or sabotage mission in the Arab homeland.

Madrid Embassy: U.S. Fears 'Possible Reprisals'

AU271647 Paris AFP in English 1642 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Madrid, March 27 (AFP) — The United States ended its exercises in the Gulf of Sidra where there were clashes this week between U.S. and Libyan forces, out of fear of "possible reprisals", a Libyan Embassy statement said here Thursday. It said Washington was afraid of "possible reprisals" against "Yankee interests in the world." And also that the decision was taken because of the "firm attitude of the Libyan people and our leader, to defend, whatever the cost, its territory, its independence and its revolution." The embassy also highlighted "the international solidarity of people who have not hesitated to call this shameful and unjustified aggression as an imperialist act."

U.S. forces hit four Libyan boats and raided a Libyan missile base Monday and Tuesday, after the Libyan leader Muʻammar al- Qadhdhafi has called the "line of death", into the Gulf of Sidra, which is claimed by Tripoli as territorial waters. Pentagon officials said the 6th Fleet will remain nearby in the central Mediterranean Sea for some days yet.

Reportage, Commentary on Events in Gulf of Sidra

U.S. Planes Downed

GF271330 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 26 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] Tripoli — Ibrahim Saqr, director of the Foreign Information Department at the Libyan Information Secretariat has affirmed that Libyan air defense forces downed three U.S. fighters 2 days ago. He confirmed that all the pilots of these fighters were killed.

In statement to *AL-KHALIJ*, Saqr said that Soviet warships in the Mediterranean near the zone of clashes confirmed the downing of the U.S. fighters. Saqr revealed that U.S. fighters yesterday tried to infiltrate through civilian air corridors, but the Libyan air defense forces discovered the attempt and confronted the U.S. fighters forcing them to retreat.

Saqr has affirmed Libya's determination to confront U.S. aggression and all provocations regardless of the sacrifices. He added that the U.S. aggression is not only designed against Libya but against the entire Arab nation.

The Libyan official has ridiculed the U.S. complaints to the United Nations, adding that the rudeness of the aggressors does not stop them from issuing such complaints to cover up their aggression. Saqr praised the Italian stance, calling it a positive one, because they are affirming that the U.S. maneuvers are a stark violation of international law.

The Libyan official expected the emergence of a clear Arab stand today to denounce the U.S. aggression. He said: What is required is a serious stand against the U.S. crusade of aggression.

Spanish Tanker Rescues Seamen

LD280934 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0910 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Madrid, 28 Mar (JANA) — The Spanish Paper *EL PAIS* yesterday reported that a Spanish oil tanker was able to rescue 16 Libyan seamen whose ship was attacked by U.S. aircraft on 25 March. [date as received] *EL PAIS* said that the Spanish tanker *Castillo de Ricote* picked up the seamen from a lifeboat they were in and took them to Tripoli last Wednesday.

'Barbarians' Graveyard'

LD271502 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1254 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] O great masses, the American barbarians are giving us our historic opportunity to avenge all tribulations and calamities, to avenge 'Attiqa [girl killed in demonstrations at former U.S. base in Libya and for whom the base was subsequently named], Sabra and Shatila, Dayr Yasin and the children of Bahr al-Baqar school, the children of Tunisia, the widows of Grenada, and the orphans of Chile. They are giving us the historic opportunity to prove to them that the strength of the living nation is capable of confrontation and triumph. Those barbarians are trying to challenge the Green [Book] concept, namely, happiness, freedom, and rejoicing. But they are giving us the opportunity to present to our beloved ones earrings made from the frames of their crows [aircraft] and to manufacture for our children toys made from the pieces of their burned-out planes. These American barbarians are giving us the opportunity to put an end to their arrogance, haughtiness, and impudence, and to do away with the myth of a superpower which intimidates peoples and is governed by the bloody madness of a failing actor and clown and an enemy of mankind's freedom and happiness. The Vietnamese people rubbed the nose of this superpower in the dirt, and the Libyan Arabs will cut off this nose in the Gulf of Sidra. These cowboys are giving us the opportunity to reply to all their insults against the Arab nation and are presenting us with the historic opportunity to liquidate their lackeys and puppets in the Arab homeland. The fate of the *Coral Sea* will be the same as that of the *Philadelphia*; just as the Libyan Arabs installed the mast of the *Philadelphia* over Government House in Tripoli; we will push the gun of the *Coral Sea* through the eye of the Statue of Liberty.

The barbarians who have not learned the lessons of the Bay of Pigs will learn their lessons in the Gulf of Sidra. They will then realize that the Libyan Arabs do not fight like heroes; instead heroes fight like Libyan Arabs. The barbarians do not know that the honor of revolutionaries comes from their weapons and principles and that revolutionaries do not fight for concessions or gains but for the honor of an entire nation. They fight to protect a civilization and values that are not familiar to the cowboys; they die standing up, like the palm trees in the Arab desert. The barbarians are not aware that all the Mediterranean basin cultures have passed through our soil, but none of them have succeeded in leaving their prints on our people, because the Arab women beyond the Atlas mountains call their children Khalid, while their sisters on the peaks of the Golan Heights call their children Saladin. Barbarians in the Gulf of Sidra, welcome to your graveyard.

Continuing Reportage on Messages of Support

Gorbachev Statement Viewed

LD272201 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2055 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The General People's Committee for the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has expressed its support for the statements made by Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, concerning all fleets in the Mediterranean. In a statement issued today the committee said that it sees the Soviet proposals as a condemnation of the presence of the U.S. fleet in the Mediterranean and an exposure of the U.S. role in defending the Zionist entity and threatening the security and peace of small states.

The statement confirmed that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, while expressing its support for this call, urges the countries of the region to support this proposal and take the steps necessary to implement it. It said that this proposal is in harmony with the initiatives which the Jamahiriyah and other countries in the Mediterranean have made to turn the the Mediterranean into a lake of peace, security, and cooperation for the progress of the countries overlooking it, exploiting its wealth and potential in the interests of its peoples.

Iranian Commander

LD281022 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] The Iranian Islamic Revolution Guards Corps commander, Mohsen Rafiqdust, has stressed that defending the Libyan Arab Gulf of Sidra from U.S. attack should be considered a duty of all Arab and Islamic countries. In a message to Brigadier Abu Bakir Yunis Jabir, the commander in chief, he said that Iran will stand beside the Libyan Arab people with all its capabilities in its sacred duty to defend Libya on the basis of the fraternal relations that link the two brotherly peoples in Libya and Iran. The message said that the United States was playing with fire and that its interests were exposed to danger throughout the world.

Palestinian Official

LD281131 Tripoli JANA in English 0915 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 28 Mar (JANA) — Tal'at Ya'qub, secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Front, has sent a cable to the brother leader of the revolution regarding the U.S. attack on the Gulf of Sidra. He states that the Libyan Arab people, by bravely repulsing the attack, have strengthened the Palestinian people's steadfasness and struggle against imperialism and Zionism. The cable continues: In the name of the Central Committee and the Palestinian Liberation Front cadres and fighters I would like to express our firm and unlimited stand with your struggle against U.S. imperialism. We salute your brave and heroic leadership in our battle against the common imperialist enemy... the enemy of all struggling peoples. He also congratulated the Libyan Arab people and their revolutionary leadership on the 16th anniversary of expelling the British military bases in Libya and liberating its soil from the paws of colonialists.

Chadian Liberation Army Chief

LD281034 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] The commander in chief of the Chadian National Army of Liberation, Adoum Yacoub, has sent a cable to Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed

Forces, in which he highly praised the Libyan Arab people's brave repulsing of the U.S. attack. In his message he said: Your brave repulsing of aggressors will be a hard lesson for them and all those who attempt to harm Libya's freedom and sovereignty.

Chadian GUNT Leader

LD280948 Tripoli JANA in English 0924 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 17, March 28, JAMAHAIRYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution has received a telegram from Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Chad's legitimate Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT) and chairman of the Supreme Council of Revolution. It reads:

'On behalf of GUNT, the Supreme Coucnil of Revolution and the national army for the liberation of the Chadian struggling people, we announce to you that we stand by you and by the brave Libyan Arab People against U.S. aggression on Al-Jamahiriyah territorial waters and space sphere. We believe that under your leadership the Libyan Arab people is capable of teaching U.S. imperialism a lesson it won't forget and will be routed and sustained for ever a defeat. Death and destruction to imperialism. Victory to the revolutionary force.

SDAR President

LD271747 Tripoli JANA in English 0816 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 16, MARS.27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the Revolution received a cable from Mohamed Abdelaziz [president of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic] declaring his full solidarity with the Libyan Arab people in its brave confrontation with U.S. aggression. He said: "We are sure that the grandsons of Omar al-Mukhtar — as we known them — will achieve victory over the Arab nation's enemies."

Palestinian Women in SFRY

LD280451 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
in Arabic 0245 GMT 28 Mar 86

["Message of support" by unidentified spokeswomen of the Palestinian Arab Women's Revolutionary Force in Yugoslavia — live or recorded]

[Text] Brother [words indistinct] leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, may God preserve him for the sake of the Arabs and pan-Arabism. Fighting U.S. imperialism and international Zionism is an honor worthy only of a revolutionary free Arab who believes in the liberation of Palestine and Arab unity. We will always be with you in confronting the biggest and only enemy — the United States. This should be the aim of every honorable Arab who believes in pan-Arabism. May God preserve you as a unionist pan-Arab model.

[Signed] The Palestinian Arab Women's Revolutionary Force in Yugoslavia

Students in Nicosia

LD271444 Tripoli JANA in English 1405 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Nicosia, Rajab 16, March 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Arab colonies, revolutionary forces and students, males and females, of the Green March School in Nicosia took to the streets yesterday morning in a demonstration of anger and challenge against U.S aggression against the people of Al-Jamahiriyah. The demonstrations raised the photographs of the leader of the revolution and banners condemning this aggressions and stressing that Sidra Gulf is Libyan Arab and is the line of death. In front of U.S Embassy there, which was heavily guarded they also chanted "Down with U.S Imperialism".

They also distributed a statement in freedom roundabouts emphasizing that Sidra Gulf is Libyan Arab and is the line of death. The statement also points out that Al-Jamahiriyah has a right to legitimately defend itself to strike at positions of aggression and its bases anywhere. The statement has called on Arab masses to start forthwith to wreck U.S interests in the Arab homeland so as to make the whole world realize that we have not gone to the coasts of USA to launch an aggression on it, but USA has left its own coasts and seas and have deliberately come here to strike at a peaceful people that develops itself and stands by the peoples that struggle for their freedom.

The demonstrators have also sent the leader of the revolution a telegram, emphasizing their readiness to take any action against U.S. imperialism - the enemy of the peoples everywhere. The telegram has lauded the firm stand of the Libyan Arab people against U.S aggression, stressing that victory is close at hand and that revolutionary sacred struggle is continuing until freedom triumphs worldwide.

Demonstrations at U.S. Embassies

LD271529 Tripoli JANA in English 1425 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli Rajab 16, March 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Arab popular masses yesterday went out in demonstrations of anger and defiance in protest against American aggression on the Gulf of Sidra and American state terrorism against the Libyan Arab people.

Public rallies and demonstrations took place outside American Embassies in Prague, Panama, Athens, Dublin, Madrid, Valleta and Nicosia. Also taking part in these demonstrations of protest were progressive movements, peace organizations, liberation movements and trade unions. The demonstrators shouted slogans including 'Down with imperialism', 'Down with American aggression and terrorism'.

The demonstrators issued statements and sent messages to the leader of the great 1st September revolution reasserting their support for and solidarity with the Libyan Arab people in countering American imperialist aggression on the Gulf of Sidra. The demonstrators urged all peace and freedom loving peoples to stand by the people of Jamahiriyah in its steadfast struggle against terroristic plots being hatched by the head of international terrorism — the American Administration.

MAURITANIA

Interior Minister Receives Libyan Official

AB270833 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Lieutenant Colonel Anna Amadou Babaly, member of the CMSN and minister of interior, yesterday morning received [name indistinct], secretary of the Libya-Mauritania Arab Fraternity Bureau in Nouakchott. They discussed the latest developments in the situation in the Mediterranean. In this regard, the minister reaffirmed Mauritania's total support for Libya.

SUDAN

Commander on Army's 'Full Control' of Upper Nile

JN271124 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1014 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Mar (SUNA) — Staff Major General Muhammad Zayn Muhammad, the military commander of the Upper Nile Region, has announced that the Armed Forces are now in full control of the situation in the Upper Nile after taking the initiative from Colonel Garang's forces, which forced the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement remnants to flee outside the Upper Nile Region.

Armed Forces Besiege Rumbek; Mutiny Among Rebels

JN271203 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1035 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Mar (SUNA) — The magazine *AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH* [Armed Forces] said today there is a tight siege around Rumbek city by the Armed Forces, and as a result the outlaws have been split into several groups without any joint leadership, each acting on its own. The paper said that a regiment of outlaw forces led by James [name indistinct] Wangli mutinied because of huge losses and lack of [words indistinct].

The magazine added that the cause of the fighting among the outlaws is that some of them are convinced of the futility of the fighting among the peoples of Sudan and believe that foreign powers are behind the continuation of the war.

DJIBOUTI

President Condemns U.S. Actions Against Libya

EA272041 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali
1645 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] A statement released in the capital of the Republic of Djibouti says the president of the Republic of Djibouti, who is also the chairman of the Council of Ministers, Al-Hajj Hassan Gouled Apidon, the Government of the Republic Djibouti, and the general public of Djibouti strongly condemn the U.S. Administration's unprovoked action and threats against our Libyan brothers and their country. The Government of the Republic of Djibouti urgently calls on the U.S. Administration to halt the military action with which it is provoking and threatening an Arab League member country.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Chairs Meeting of Constitution Commission

EA272355 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Executive Committee of the commission drafting the Constitution of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has completed preparation of the draft Constitution to be presented to the second congress of the drafting commission. The Executive Committee completed preparation of the draft Constitution at its second regular meeting at the WPE Central Committee office today after discussing and studying the blueprint presented by the Draft Constitution Preparation Committee, which is one of the committees established earlier by the Constitution drafting commission.

The second regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the commission drafting the Constitution chaired by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE Central Committee secretary general, chairman of the PMAC and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, started its work by listening to a report presented by Comrade Shewandagne Belete, alternate member of the Politburo and secretary of the WPE Central Committee, on the work done so far by the commission's office and the various committees.

At the end of its meeting, the Executive Committee of the commission drafting the Constitution formulated the remaining work program of the commission, decided on the date of the second meeting of the commission's congress, and formulated the agenda and program.

KUNA: ELF Official Interviewed on New 'Offensive'

LD271437 Kuwait KUNA in English 1254 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, March 27 (KUNA) — "Ethiopia is planning to launch a massive offensive within few months in an attempt for a military liquidation of the Eritrean revolution", a prominent Eritrean leader said here today.

In an interview with (KUNA) president of the Eritrean Liberation Front-ELF-PLF "the Unified Command," Osman Salih Subai said a 50,000 troop (?build-up) is now under way, while officers were sent for training in the Soviet Union for that purpose. He asserted that the offensive will be launched during the rain months (June - August) against "the liberated parts of Eritrea.

Due to the on-going Gulf war, the complicated Middle East situation and the oil market crisis, we are no longer receiving substantial aid from our Arab and other friends, he added. The Arab oil-producing states, it is recalled, provided generous (?aid to) the Eritrean freedom fighters and hosted offices of different Eritrean factions.

Subai said a recent meeting of the Eritrean National Council resolved on adopting a policy of self reliance for securing arms and other supplies, adding we will also capture enemy arms.

He said four days ago, ELF-PLF troops shattered two Egyptian brigades near the city of "Tensai" and captured 700 pieces of light arms, about 250,000 bullets and two heavy transport trucks.

The ELF-PLF leader said despite heavy Ethiopian patrolling and the existence of a Soviet naval base near the city of Dahlak, which operates in coordination with Ethiopia, "the Red Sea is still open to us".

During the past few months, we have been able to bring reasonable quantities of supplies including food materials, through the Red Sea into the liberated zone. He said the present state in Eritrea is characterized by poverty which resulted from the prevailing wave of drought and famine.

An enlarged convention will be held in the liberated zone within the coming four months to discuss an agenda topped by the issue of Eritrean national unity, the ELF leader said, adding, the Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front — EPLF--is still refusing a dialogue with the ELF--unified command "despite efforts made by friends of the revolution".

Subai said the convention will decide on new strategies and choose permanent leaderships for the unified command. He said if a national Eritrean unity could be realized, then the revolution would be freed from the prevailing suffering.

He said despite all efforts exerted by neighbouring Arab countries for a peaceful solution to the conflict, Ethiopia still insists on war and hostilities.

The ELF-PLF chief executive said contrary to Ethiopian allegations, Sudan is not providing any assistance or allowing the safe passage of equipment into the liberated Eritrean territories, at least during the past seven years.

"The Sudanese Government even refused to give back some military equipment which had been stored in its territory since 1981", he added.

He said Ethiopia is not providing aid to south Sudan rebels to compromise over Eritrea, because it repeatedly turned down

Sudanese proposals to negotiate a peaceful solution with the Eritreans.

The ultimate Ethiopian objective is to crush the revolution but we will continue to survive and struggle same as we have done in the last quarter of a century in which we sacrificed a quarter million of our people, he stressed.

He said Ethiopia's direct intervention in south Sudan, and the provision of arms, logistics and miliary training to the rebels is done under a green light by the big powers of the East and West.

SOMALIA

Opposition Front Elects CC Executive Committee

EA272336 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces recently held a meeting following the Second DFSS Congress and elected an Executive Committee as follows:

Dr Hasan Ali Mireh, **chairman of the DFSS and secretary of the fronts foreign affairs;**

Dr Muhammad Farah Jimaaleh, **deputy chairman of the DFSS;**

Colonel Abdullahi Jama Kulmiyeh, **DFSS defence secretary;**

Fighter Abdullahi Haji Elmi, **DFSS information secretary;**

Fighter Hasan Yusuf Ali (Garabey), **DFSS political affairs and mobilization secretary;**

Fighter Abd al-Rahman Shireh Warsameh, **DFSS finance secretary;**

Fighter Husayn Ali **(Shidoh), DFSS social affairs secretary**; and

Fighter Abd al-Razzaq Ahmad Ali, **DFSS religious affairs and justice secretary.**

Our reporter says that the Executive Committee has held its first meeting and decided on the various committees of the various sections, bases and other centers of the DFSS.

DFSS Chairman Declares Support for Libya

LD271843 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The new chairman of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces, fighter Hasan 'Ali Mireh, speaking on behalf of the DFSS Second Congress held between 19 and 25 March 1986, on behalf of the DFSS Central Committee and on his own behalf, said the DFSS fully supported the people and sister nation of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in their just war to repulse the provocative and aggressive war unleashed against their country by imperialist America, which had been conspired, planned and premediated. Chairman Hasan 'Ali Mireh said the DFSS vehemently condemned the unprovoked and naked aggression launched against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and against the freedom, stability and unity of the Libyan people and nation. The DFSS and the General Public of Somalia opposed to the fascist regime of Siad Barre fully support their brothers in Libya for their vigilance in defending their freedom and sovereignty against imperialist America.

Responding to the call of fighter chairman Dr Mireh, the fighters of the DFSS are fully prepared and ready to give moral and material support to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Spokesman Rejects BBC Report on Talks With Ethiopia

EA272234 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] A spokesman of the Somali Ministry of Information and National Guidance, today strongly rejected the recent BBC report in the program "The Muslim World" in which the BBC said the ongoing peaceful and conciliatory talks between Somalia and Ethiopia have been brought about by virtue of Italian aid to Somalia. The spokesman said the idea of holding peaceful talks between Somalia and Ethiopia was not a foreign one, but was introduced by the leaders of the two countries after taking into consideration the benefits and interests of the two neighboring peoples. The spokesman went on to say that the ongoing conciliatory talks could not be purchased with material things and the BBC report was therefore far from the truth.

The spokesman of the Somali Ministry of Information and National Guidance added that the Italian aid to Somalia was part of the Italian Government's pledge at the UN conference on the emergency situation in Africa held in Geneva 11-12 March 1958, when the Italian Government agreed to give 21 African countries $1 billion. The beneficiaries of the aid comprised the countries hit by prolonged drought and desertification, including Somalia, Sudan, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Mali, and Senegal. It is therefore astonishing to note, the Somali spokesman said, that the BBC interpreted Somalia's share of the Italian aid as an inducement to persuade Somalia to sit at a round table with Ethiopia. This is nothing but fabrication and baseless propaganda.

The spokesman for the Somali Ministry of Information and National Guidance added that the Italian Government's aid to development projects in Somalia was planned on a 3-year basis. The BBC report was therefore nothing but unfounded and baseless lies, commensurate with the BBC's customary concoctions and confusion.

UGANDA

Museveni Receives Libyan Delegation 27 March

EA271536 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has received a delegation from the revolutionary movement of Libya led by Dr 'Abdallah. The delegation delivered a message from the Libyan Government.

During the meeting held at State House, Entebbe, the president and the members of the delegation discussed matters of bilateral relations and unity in Africa.

NRA Mobile Division Reaches Sudanese Border

EA271813 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The mobile division of the National Resistance Army [NRA] has arrived in Nimule on the border with the Sudan. Nimule is in Moyo District.

A spokesman of the Ministry of Defense says Ugandan troops exchanged brotherly greetings with the Sudanese Army on the opposite side and found their two army helicopters which were stolen by the Okello group. He added that many Ugandans who had fled into the Sudan and would like to come back are already in touch with NRA units and orders have been given to the authorities to facilitate their return.

In the meantime, troops on the western front yesterday liberated the town of Nebbi and are now proceeding to Arua Town. Previously on the eastern sector, the troops liberated the townships of Gatonga and (Adlai). In most of the latest advances the NRA have found no resistance from the defeated army, also equipment, incuding a 122-mm howitzer, has been recovered.

Cattle-raiders are, however, continuing to disturb the areas of Soroti. Warning is hereby given to all lawless elements to stop cattle-raiding forthwith. Special programs for Karamoja are being worked out and those elements should take advantage of the programs instead of continuing to disturb the peaceful life of other citizens. If, however, they continue to follow their misguided ways, the Defense Ministry spokesman said, they will have to feel the whole weight of the NRA.

CAR

Kolingba Addresses Nation on Crash of French Plane

AB271608 Paris AFP in French 1514 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Bangui, 27 March (AFP) — The accident of the Jaguar plane of the French Air Force which crashed Thursday morning onto a Bangui neighborhood killing 22 people and wounding about 30 others must not lead to an "unleashing of racial violence and hatred," CAR head of state General Andre Kolingba declared in a radio broadcast on Thursday. The CAR president, who made the statement shortly after a violent anti-French demonstration in the streets of Bangui, appealed to the people for calm and said that the plane accident, due to a technical fault, constitutes a "veritable tragedy" for the entire Central African Republic.

Gen Kolingba specified that the tragedy occurred in the context of the Chadian conflict and made the CAR victims — children of a Koranic school as well as some persons living in straw huts along the road to the Bangui airport — "martyrs of peace." "However painful and sad this tragedy may be," stated Gen Kolingba, "I appeal for calm and dignity as a mark of respect for the memory of the dead."

After also appealing to the CAR people for patriotism and a sense of responsibility and hospitality, President Kolingba affirmed that the presence of the French forces in CAR is "due to the threats of aggression facing the stability and security of our region and more particularly the CAR." After observing that this tragedy has occurred in a country which itself in not at war but which has been working tirelessly to safeguard peace, President Kolingba called on the warring Chadian people "to find a solution so that our region may finally live in peace and far from permanent threats of destabilization and outside interference."

He finally decreed Friday 28 March as a day of national mourning and announced that national funerals will be organized for the compatriots who "have died for peace."

French Minister Promises Compensation

HK280124 Hong Kong AFP in English 0042 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, March 27 (AFP) — France will compensate "as soon and as fully as possible" relatives of those killed and injured when a French fighter plane crashed in Bangui Thursday, Cooperation Minister Michel Aurillac said here in a communique. Urgent action had been taken to help the victims, notably medical aid. Mr Aurillac also had sent condolences to General Andre Kolingba, president of the Central African Republic.

Twenty-two people, many of them children, were killed and about 30 were injured when the jet crashed into a crowded, mainly Moslem section of Bangui, shortly after take-off because of technical problems. Anti-French demonstrations erupted afterwards. Europeans driving through the city had their cars stoned and some 50 of them took refuge in the French Embassy.

Violent Anti-French Demonstrations

AB271440 Paris AFP in French 1411 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, 27 Mar (AFP) — The number of casualties in the accident of the Jaguar fighter plane of the French Air Force which crashed Thursday morning onto a populated neighborhood in Bangui has risen to 22 killed and about 30 wounded, Jean-Pierre Vidon, the French charge d'affaires in the Central African Republic, told AFP early this afternoon.

Mr Vidon, who was contacted from Paris by telephone, also indicated that a violent anti-French demonstration occured on the streets of the CAR capital for 2 hours, marked by the stoning of the windscreens of cars driven by Europeans. More violent scuffles occurred near a supermarket but the demonstrators were rapidly dispersed, he added. About 50 French people, who were near the embassy at the time of the demonstration, took refuge in the chancellery for some time, said the charge d'affaires. There are now about 3,500 French nationals in the CAR. According to Mr Vidon, they have been asked to remain at home and to be calm.

The CAR president has made a radio broadcast appealing to the people to remain calm and justifying the Frnech presence. This appeal was followed by the broadcast of a message of condolences from French head of state Francois Mitterrand, Mr Vidon said.

CHAD

Hissein Habre, GUNT Leader To Meet in Brazzaville

Habre Due 27 Mar

AB271216 Paris AFP in French 1130 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Ndjamena, 27 Mar (AFP) — Chadian head of state Hissein Habre will leave Ndjamena today, Thursday, for Brazzaville at the invitation of Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, it was officially announced on Thursday in the Chadian capital. According to a communique published by the Presidency of the Republic, Mr Hissein Habre, who is expected to leave for the Congo late in the morning, "will no doubt have thorough discussions with his Congolese counterpart concerning bilateral relations and the process of consolidation of peace in Chad." The communique adds that during this visit, there will be a meeting between Mr Habre and the current OAU chairman, Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, but does not specify whether the Chadian head of state will have contacts with certain Chadian opposition elements.

The communique adds that President Habre will be accompanied by a large delegation including Chadian Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou and the new minister of justice, General Djib[illegible] Negue Djogo. The three other opposition elements who have rallied to Ndjamena and who joined the government last Sunday — Mbailem Bana Ngarnayal, minister of finance and data processing; Djibrine Grinky, minister of culture, youth and sports; and Mahamat Senoussi Khatir, minister of national education — will also join the delegation.

Hissein Habre Met by Sassou-Nguesso

AB271735 Paris AFP in French 1602 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Brazzaville, 27 Mar (AFP) — President Hissein Habre of Chad arrived at Maya-Maya Airport in Brazzaville Thursday afternoon at 1520 GMT (1620 local time) aboard a special plane, a Fokker 28 of Air Gabon. The Chadian president, who was welcomed upon his arrival by Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, preceded Abdou Diouf, president of Senegal and current OAU chairman, whose arrival is scheduled for this afternoon. Mr Habre heads a government delegation of about 15 members, including the minister of foreign affairs, Gouara Lassou, and the minister of justice, General Negue Djogo.

A meeting scheduled for this weekend in Congo between Mr Habre and his main adversary, Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Transitional National Union Government (armed opposition to Ndjamena), was announced on Wednesday by a reliable source in Brazzaville, it was recalled.

Senegal's Diouf Arrives

AB271826 Paris AFP in French 1705 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Brazzaville, 27 Mar (AFP) — Abdou Diouf, president of Senegal and chairman of the OAU arrived at the Maya-Maya International Airport in Brazzaville today at 1540 GMT (1640 local time) on board his presidential plane, about 20 minutes after Chadian head of state Hissein Habre.

After a very colorful welcome ceremony, Abdou Diouf and his host, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso drove off in an open car toward the People's Palace in Brazzaville. It is still not known when Goukouni Oueddei, president of the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government], armed opposition to the Ndjamena regime, will arrive in the Congolese capital for the OAU arranged meeting of reconciliation between the opposed factions in the Chadian conflict. A GUNT delegation led by External Relations Minister Facho Balaam, arrived in Brazzaville on Wednesday.

GUNT Leader Not To Attend

AB281310 Paris AFP in English 1305 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, March 28 (AFP) — Ousted Chadian leader Goukouni Oueddei will not take part in talks in Congo with President Hissein Habre aimed at ending the country's 20-year-old civil war, a representative of Mr Goukouni's rebel alliance said here on Friday.

Mr Abderrahman Moussa, Paris spokesman for Mr Goukouni's Libyan-backed Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), said the deposed president had refused to attend the talks unless the Organization of African Unity [OAU] condemned France's most recent intervention in favor of Mr Habre's administration. "In order for this conference to take place, the GUNT is waiting for the Organization of African Unity to denounce clearly French intervention in Chad and not to support it through its silence," Mr Moussa told AFP.

Mr Habre, who ousted Mr Goukouni from power in 1982, arrived in Brazzaville Thursday for the talks, scheduled to take place this weekend in the southern Congolese town of Loubomo. The talks were also to have been attended by Abdou Diouf, president of Senegal and current chairman of the Organization of African Unity, and Congolese President Denis Sassou Nguesso, who has been mandated by the OAU to bring the two opposing sides together.

The GUNT spokesman said that although Mr Goukouni had agreed to attend the long-awaited talks, "it is certain that the protocol problem, as addressed by the Congolese authorities, remains one of the handicaps working against Chadians meeting around a negotiating table." In three years of attempts to persuade both belligerents to negotiate, the GUNT has consistently refused to meet with Mr Habre unless he agreed to meet the rebels on an equal protocol footing and not as head of state. Mr Habre had come to Congo with a large delegation, including a number of former rebels who recently came over to the government side.

The attempt to stage the talks comes nearly a month after abortive rebel attacks against government-held settlement in the north of the country. France responded to the attacks by dispatching nearly 1,000 troops and several warplanes to Chad to bolster Mr Habre's government against the rebels. In 1983, Paris airlifted more than 3,000 troops to Ndjamena to halt the last major advance by the rebels, establishing a "red-line" defensive limit which divided the country into government and rebel-controlled halves. The Organization of African Unity has consistently called for both sides to reach a negotiated settlement to the protracted war.

ZAIRE

State Commissioner for PTT Dismissed

AB271302 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1218 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 27 Mar (AZAP) — Citizen Mukuku Afuka W'Etonda, state commissioner for posts, telephone, and telegraph (PTT), has been dismissed from his post according to the Presidential Decree No. 86/100 of 27 March 1986 which was published by the Voice of Zaire in its 1230[1130 GMT] newscast. The same source announced that Citizen Ndokay Kolokp'wo, general manager of the Zairian Posts and Telecommunications Department, has also been dismissed according to Presidential Decree No. 86/101 of 27 March 1986.

Also today, the founding chairman of the MPR, president of the republic, and supreme commander of the Zairian Armed Forces, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, made some appointments within the Zairian Armed Forces.

Presidential Decree Promotes Officers

AB271824 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1600 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Colonel Engoma Kamba Wa Bongongu, commissioned at the Army Headquarters, No Mecano [expansion unknown] 152173 P, has been appointed deputy army chief of staff of land forces, by presidential decree No 86-103 of 27 March 1986. Another presidential decree initialed today, appoints Colonel Mulumba A Mbote, a technician at the Army Headquarters, No Mecano 002449 Z, as commander of the Kamanyola Division.

On the other hand, Colonels and Division Commanders Nzimbi Ngbale Kongo Wa Basa No Mecano 007695 Z and Mulumba A Mbote No Mecano 002449 Z, have been exceptionally promoted to the rank of brigadier.

State Commissioner Criticizes Amnesty International

AB271522 Paris AFP in French 0911 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Montreal, 27 Mar (AFP) — The Zairian state commissioner (minister) for foreign affairs and cooperation, Mokolo Wa Mpombo, on Wednesday in Montreal, declined to comment on the recent Amnesty International's report mentioning particularly that some political prisoners have been tortured in Zaire.

After stating that he had not read the report, Mokolo Wa Mpombo said: "Amnesty International accuses without proof, without verification, and without informing the government in question." According to the minister, "Amnesty International bases its information on what people tell it and does not take the legitimate authorities into account." While joking, Mokolo Wa Mpombo recalled that somebody who, according to a previous Amnesty International report, had been killed, is now Zaire's ambassador to Guinea.

State Commissioner Mokolo Wa Mpombo is currently on an offiical visit to Canada.

BENIN

President Kerekou Returns From CEAO Summit

AB272025 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] President Kerekou returned to Cotonou this afternoon from Ouagadougou where, in the company of his peers, he participated in the 11th summit of heads of state of the CEAO [West African Economic Community]. He was welcomed at the foot of the ramp by Comrade Romain Villon Guezo, chairman of the permanent committee of Revolutionary National Assembly.

BURKINA FASO

Further Coverage of CEAO, ANAD Summit Meetings

CEAO Communique Issued

AB271708 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Final communique issued at the end of the CEAO summit in Ouagadougou on 27 March 1986; read by Justin Damo Barro, Burkina's minister of financial resources and outgoing chairman of the Council of Ministers]

[Text] The 11th conference of heads of state of the CEAO was held in Ouagadougou on 26 and 27 March 1986 under the chairmanship of His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, president of the Republic, head of the government, and current chairman of the conference of heads of state. [applause]

Those who participated in this meeting were:

For the People's Republic of Benin: His Excellency General Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin, president of the Republic and head of state.

For the Republic of Ivory Coast: His Excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny, president of the Republic.

For the Republic of Mali: His Excellency General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of the Malian People and president of the Republic.

For the Islamic Republic of Mauritania: His Excellency Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state.

For the Republic of Senegal: His Excellency Abdou Diouf, president of the Republic.

For the Republic of Niger: His Excellency Hamid Algabit, prime minister representing His Excellency Brigadier General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state.

Those who participated as observers were:

For the Republic of Guinea: His Excellency General Lansana Conte, chairman of the Military Committee for National Redress.

For the Republic of Togo: His Excellency Ato Koffi Amega, minister of foreign affairs.

The conference noted with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the objectives entrusted upon the community, in particular in the area of community projects as well as the second generation program. The community projects are being implementated according to schedule and two of them — the African Center for Higher Management Studies, CESAG, and the Regional Center for Solar Energy, CRES — have become full-fledged institutions of the community, by acquiring legal status and financial autonomy. The second generation program which was adopted by the 10th conference of heads of state in Bamako in 1984 and which bore in particular on village and pastoral water resources development, the adoption of a common agricultural policy and the regional transport plan, is being implemented according to the schedule.

The heads of state expressed satisfaction with the spirit of solidarity, friendship, and brotherliness between community members. They reaffirmed their faith in the community and are happy with the constant support given to the community by friendly countries, development finance institutions, as well as international organizations. The conference adopted the project for the setting up of a Regional Center for Commercial Information and Documentation, CRIC [Centre Regional d'Information et de Documentation Commerciale] whose headquarters will be in Abidjan, in the Republic of Ivory Coast. The People's Republic of Benin is to appoint a project manager. With a view to favoring the development and the implementation of the various areas of computer science in the community's members, the conference adopted a protocol concerning cooperation in the field of computer science. This protocol will be added in the annex of the treaty setting up the CEAO.

Considering the importance of renewable energies in the process of modernization and industrialization of members, the conference adopted the regional program for equipment in renewable energies prepared by the regional center for solar energy for the benefit of members of CEAO and ICDCS [Permanent Inter-state Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel]. The conference adopted the various recurrent budgets for the General Secretariat, the FOSIDEC [Solidarity and Intervention Fund for the Development of the Community], the CESAG, the CRES and fixed the amount of the community development fund for 1986.

The conference noted the results of the deliberations of the commission for the implementation of the directives of the 10th summit and mandated the current chairman to summon the meeting of an ad hoc commission made up of experts in many fields of all members to examine these results, before being submitted to the Council of Ministers and later to the next conference of heads of state.

Elsewhere, the conference congratulated members of the commission for the quality job they did. Concerning the trial for the embezzlement of FOSIDEC funds, the conference expressed satisfaction with the smooth hearing of the case and affirmed its support for the implementation of the verdict of the current trial.

The conference congratulated the chairman and members of the Council of Ministers, as well as the experts of members for the quality job they did which enabled the community to consolidate its gains and to demonstrate its ability to honor its commitment to the implmentation program. The conference also congratulated Drissa Keita, secretary general of the CEAO and his deputy, as well as all his aides at the General Secretariat, for their dynamism and their devotion to duty. The conference decided to appoint Mamadou Haidara from Mali as secretary general. The conference decided to institutionalize solidarity days between the youths of CEAO members. [applause] The conference decided to appoint His Excellency Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya [applause] chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and head of state, as current chairman of the CEAO beginning from the end of this session until the next conference of heads of state. The 12th conference of heads of states will be held in Nouakchott during the last week of October 1986.

The heads of state thanked in particular all friendly countries, inter-African and international organizations, and development finance institutions for their important and decisive contributions to the technical and financial implementation of community projects and the second generation program. They also thanked the technical assistants placed at the disposal of the General Secretariat and the specialized institutions of the community, for their competence and their availability. At the end of their deliberations, the heads of state of Benin, Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Guinea, and the representatives of the heads of state of Niger and Togo, thanked their brother and friend, Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, president of the Republic, and head of the government, members of the revolutionary government and the Burkinabe people for the very warm welcome given them and the friendly and brotherly atmosphere they enjoyed during their stay in Ouagadougou. [applause]

Issued in Ouagadougou on 27 March 1986

Communique Marks End of ANAD Summit

AB271753 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Final communique issued at end of the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement Summit on 27 March in Ouagadougou, read by its secretary general, General Jean Gomis]

[Text] The 11th conference of heads of state and government or their representatives of the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD] between members of the CEAO and Togo was held at the CEAO Congress Hall on 27 March, 1986, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, the chairman of the National Council of the revolution [CNR], president of the Republic, head of government and current chairman of the ANAD heads of state and government conference.

Participating in this conference were His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, CNR chairman, president of the Republic and head of Government of Burkina Faso; His Excellency Mr Felix Houphouet-Boigny, the president of the Republic of Ivory Coast; His Excellency General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People, the president of the Republic of Mali; His Excellency Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, CMSN chairman, head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania; His Excellency Hamid Algabit, prime minister, representing His Excellency Brigadier General Seyni Kountche, the chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of the Republic of Niger; His Excellency Mr Abdou Diouf, the president of the Republic of Senegal; and His Excellency Mr Ato Koffi Amega, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation representing His Excellency General Gnassingbe Eyadema, chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the Republic of Togo.

Also participating in this conference as observers were His Excellency brigadier General Mathieu Kerekou, the president of the People's Republic of Benin; His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel Sory Doumbouya, minister of national defense representing His Excellency General Lansana Conte, chairman of the Military Committee for National Redress and president of the Republic of Guinea, Conakry.

First of all, the conference heard the activities report of the ANAD secretary general. Next, the conference heard the report of the 10th ordinary session of the Council of Ministers presented by Major Boukari Jean-Baptiste Lingani, the minister of popular defense of Burkina Faso. Within this framework, the conference, after adopting its agenda, went on to examine the dossiers submitted to it by the Council of Ministers, namely, political dossiers, draft addendum to the directives concerning missions and general instructions on ANAD peace force, administrative and financial dossiers, and the operational and equipment budget estimates for 1986. Finally, the conference examined the draft act which the Council of Ministers submitted to it for perusal.

The heads of state and governments noted the positive results of the first joint action of the ANAD on the occasion of the conflict between Burkina Faso and the Republic of Mali which led to the deployment of an observer commission for 1 month. The heads of state and government paid great tribute to their elder brother His Excellency Mr Felix Houphouet-Boigny, for the important contribution of the Republic of Ivory Coast in the setting up of the observer commission. [applause] In addition, the heads of state and government expressed their deep gratitude to the president of the Republic of Ivory Coast, its government and to the Ivorian people for their solidarity gesture and sacrifices made. [applause] In order to perpetuate the memory of the four pilots of the Ivorian Air Force who died during this peace operation, the head of state and government decided to erect a seat at the scene of the accident of their helicpter. [applause]

The conference unanimously adopted all the texts brought before it for perusal, and approved the various acts concerning the various decisions it took. The heads of state and government reaffirmed their solidarity and desire to strengthen, in the interest of their peoples, cooperation and assistance among their countries and to maintain peace and security in the subregion.

The heads of state and government expressed their hearty congratulations and gratitude to His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, CNR chairman, the president of the Republic of Burkina Faso and head of government for the devotion, rigor, and efficiency with which he unrelentlessly accomplished his mandate as the current chairman of the ANAD. The heads of state and government decided to entrust the current chairmanship of the conference to His Excellency Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, CMSN chairman and head of state. The eighth ANAD heads of state and government conference will be held in Nouakchott in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in October 1986.

Finally, the heads of state and government expressed their sincere gratitude to their brother and friend, His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, CNR chairman, president of the republic, head of government and chairman of the conference, to the Burkinabe Government and people for the especially warm, very fraternal and authentically African welcome given them and their delegations during their stay in the Burkinabe land.

Issued in Ouagadougou, on 27 March 1986, by the conference

Sankara, Conte Meet Press

AB272113 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Interview with Guinean and Burkinabe Presidents Lansana Conte and Thomas Sankara by Guinean and Burkinabe Press at the VIP lounge following Guinean President Conte's Arrival at Ouagadougou Airport on 27 March — recorded]

[Text] [Conte] In the first place, I wish to thank President Sankara and the Burkinabe authorities for the warm welcome accorded my delegation. I also thank them for giving some members of my delegation the opportunity to visit Burkina Faso for the first time. We are very much impressed and we feel at home here in Burkina Faso. We are at ease and all the Guineans ... [changes thought] all the members of my delegation are happy to have come here to greet their Burkinabe brothers and to pay a short visit to your beautiful country,

[Unidentified reporter] Mr President, the comrade president of Burkina Faso and current chairman of the 11th CEAO summit would like Guinea and Togo to become members of the CEAO. Do you share this view?

[Conte] Certainly. A day will come when we will be a member of the CEAO. I know that the effort is being made by our brothers who are already members. That is our wish too, and certainly a day will come when we will also become a member of the CEAO.

[Unidentified Guinean reporter addressing Sankara] Mr President, here we are in Burkina Faso to attend a CEAO summit which you are presiding over. The previous OAU summit was essentially devoted to Africa's economic problems. The CEAO and ECOWAS are regional organizations which participate in this African integration effort. What further prospects can we expect from this CEAO summit?

[Sankara] Thank you. Before answering your question, I would like to welcome my elder brother, President Conte, who is well-known to us here for his sympathy and love for Burkina Faso and its leaders. It has been a long time that we have been expecting his visit. Finally, he has come.

Well, Africa's economic prospects are quite difficult. They are difficult because our economic partners — with whom we deal — are insensitive to our call. I do not believe that simple willingness of the heart is enough to solve our current economic problems. It is only through struggle that we can do so. And struggle, first of all means (?pooling together) our forces. In this regard, all groups that we can initiate are welcome — CEAO, ECOWAS, as well as the efforts being made by the OAU, are equally welcome. At this point, it is necessary that we should not form groups which may be taken over by any forces or any world powers whatsoever.

Africa has several sorts of resources, for example, Guinea. Guinea alone has enough resources to be able to feed West Africa. And our inability to extract and exploit these resources stems from the fact that we are not able to organize ourselves together and we all remain dependent. Guinea, Burkina Faso, and other African countries; we all run to the same foreign sources for our supplies, whereas we have all that we need. Therefore, the watchword for our economic struggle must be fruitful unity.

[Guinean reporter] Mr President, on the bilateral level, how do you assess Guinean-Burkinabe cooperation?

[Sankara] Guinean-Burkinabe cooperation will be expanded and strengthened. Up to today, we have maintained excellent political and diplomatic relations with Guinea, but we have not sufficiently explored our bilateral cooperation. You recently had the opportunity to welcome our minister of commerce in Guinea. It is a sign of what we intend doing and I am quite sure that with the firm support of the delegation of the political leadership of Guinea and the personal insistence of President Lansana Conte, this project will not be in vain.

You, Guineans, have to propose to us the products that we want, that we need, that we desire from your country. And probably, in return, we Burkinabes will be able to suggest to you things — exchanges are necessary.

As you know, in the cultural sector, the prestige that Guineans enjoy here in Burkina Faso any time we receive Guinean delegation here is really great. It is a real celebration. In return, we will also try to perform in Guinea in order to further strengthen this important bond of cooperation between you and us.

OAU Chairman Diouf Speaks

AB271033 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Abdou Diouf, current OAU chairman, on behalf of his peers, thanked the people of Burkina Faso for their legendary hospitality, and underscored the activities of the Community [CEAO] and ANAD. Let us listen to President Abdou Diouf, OAU chairman.

[Begin Diouf recording] The objectives we have set for ourselves within the CEAO as well as the ANAD, are more than ever real, and we are more than ever determined to join our efforts to continue actions already engaged, to consolidate our gains and open new prospects. To this end, the common desire which motivates members of the CEAO and ANAD to take up the challenges facing our respective countries will be our most effective weapon to help us achieve our objectives together.

In our struggle to ensure the prosperity of our peoples, the CEAO, in a spirit of cooperation with other African subregional organizations, will spare no effort in making its contributions toward the search for lasting solutions to the critical economic situation in Africa, to which the international community, in an outburst of solidarity, has decided to devote all its efforts and all its creative imagination. In this perspective, our community will once agains show proof of a spirit of fraternal solidarity, cohesion and determination. [end recording]

President Diouf then praised the efforts of the president of Burkina Faso for his respect of structures of the common subregional organization, and stressed the sense of maturity shown by the community through its ability to solve its internal problems as well as the serious crises facing the member countries. A special mention was made of President Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast by the Senegalese head of state, for his clear-sightedness and his legendary wisdom.

Further Background on Secretary General Haidara

AB272003 Dakar PANA in English 1541 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Ouagadougou, 27 March (PANA) — The 11th summit of the heads of state of the West African Economic Community grouping Francophone countries (CEAO) appointed today in Ouagadougou, Mr. Mamadou Haidara from Mali as new secretary general of the organisation.

Mr. Haidara is taking over from his countryman, Mr. Drissa Keita, appointed in October 1984 during the 10th summit of the community held in Bamako. Mr. Keita was declared persona non grata in Burkina Faso in August 1985. Before his appointment, Mr. Haidara was Malian minister for transport. He is a qualified jurist and has served in his country as general manager of the Malian Development Bank and technical advisor to President Moussa Traore of Mali.

Liptako-Gourma Authority Issues Communique

AB272138 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Final communique issued at the end of the summit of heads of state of the Liptako-Gourma Integrated Development Authority on 27 March in Ouagadougou and read by its general manager Souleimane Ganoua]

[Excerpts] The fourth conference of heads of state of the Liptako-Gourma Integrated Development Authority, was held on 27 March 1986 in Ouagadougou, Burkina, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the revolution and president of the Republic.

Those who participated in this conference were: His Excellency Major General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People and prersident of the Republic of Mali; His Excellency Hamid Algabit, prime minister of the Republic of Niger, representing His Excellency Brigadier Seyni Kountche, president of the Supreme Military Council and head of state; His Excellency Brigadier Lansana Conte, chairman of the Military Committee for National Redress and president of the Republic of Guinea, who was attending the conference's deliberation as an observer.

At the opening ceremony, His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the conference of heads of state of the Authority, made a welcome address in which he stressed the need to strengthen the ties of solidarity, brotherliness, and understanding between the authority's members which share common history, geography, and traditions.

Recalling the activities embarked upon since the third summit in Bamako for the revitalization of the authority, President Thomas Sankara reiterated the need to continue in this direction in order to enable our common organization to affirm its political weight in the subregion for the benefit of the peoples of the members. He also called on finance institutions to direct particular attention to the implementation of the authority's priority program within the framework of its fundamental objectives of food self-sufficiency and providing easy access to the sea.

Concerning particularly the implementation of the priority program of the Liptako-Gourma Authority, the conference expressed its satisfaction for the effective take-off of the water supply project and the forthcoming launching of the telecommunications network of the Liptako-Gourma Authority.

The conference thanked all bilateral and multlateral cooperation agencies which enabled the authority to conclude its activities and called on these agencies to continue their support to our common organization in order to enable it to complete other projects, in particular the second water supply program of the authority, the integrated program for the fight against drought and desertification in the Liptako-Gourma Region, communications infrastructures like the Bori-(Pera)-Niamey road, the Ouagadougou-Kay Dori road, the Yako-Mopti road, as well as the project for the Sahel railroad from Ouagadougou to (Tombao) which will be extended to Mali and Niger.

The heads of state and government decided to hold their next summit in Niamey, Republic of Niger.

Issued on Ouagadougou on 27 March 1986

[Signed] the conference.

People's Revolutionary Tribunal Trial Resumes

AB271812 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The deliberations of the People's Revolutionary Tribunal [TPR] resumed this morning at the Court of Justice.

This trial related to Air Afrique once again shows that the 15th session of the TPR has a special significance compared to other sessions because it is trying cases concerning several African countries. This trial can be compared to the CEAO trial which began on 25 March tackling the Diawara case with some suspense following lawyers the accused persons' lawyers challenging the TPR competence in trying the case.

In fact, the heads of state have just decided to let the TPR proceed in the deliberations. This was mentioned in the final communique issued after the CEAO summit.

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Head of State Traore Returns From CEAO Summit

AB272226 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The head of state, General Moussa Traore, returned home this afternoon from Ouagadougou where he took part in the 11th summit of heads of state of the West African Economic Community.

He was welcomed upon his arrival by the deputy general secretary of the party — Democratic Union of Malian People — Amadou Baba Diarra, the members of party's Central Executive Bureau, of the cabinet, and of the National Assembly. Also present at the airport were the various chiefs of staff of the Army and the constituted corps.

ANGOLA

KUP Carries Communique on Attack on Oil Company

MB280912 (Clandestine) KUP in French to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 28 Mar (KUP) — The UNITA armed forces have carried out large-scale operations in Cabinda Province, among them an attack at 0400 on 24 March against the Malongo oil complex. At the same time, several sections of the pipeline were blown up with dynamite in the regions of Chimbondo, Bucomazi, Chinga, and Santa Catarina.

This was revealed in a communique issued on the same day and signed by UNITA's Chief of Staff Brigadier Alberto Joaquim Vinama Chendovava. The communique added that heavy damage was caused and that certain regions are still ablaze as a direct result of the explosions during the attack.

Envoy to Cuba Reiterates Peace Readiness

PA272229 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The Government of the People's Republic of Angola has reiterated it is willing to negotiate and to keep struggling to guarantee a climate of peace in the region of the South African cone, Manuel Pedro (?Pacabira), Angolan ambassador to Cuba said in Havana.

During a ceremony to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Angola's victory over the South African invaders, Ambassador (?Pacabira) criticized the warmongering policy of South Africa, the regime of apartheid, and of the United States. The Angolan ambassador to Cuba reaffirmed Angola's opposition to U.S. and South Africa's efforts to make the implementation of U.N. Resolution 435 for the independence of Namibia conditional on the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola.

LESOTHO

Government Bans All Political Activity

MB271640 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Our correspondent in Maseru reports that all political activity in Lesotho has been suspended. In terms of the proclamation in the Government Gazette, no one may take part in any political activity or encourage the management of any political party. All public meetings with a political context also are prohibited, as are political publications.

General Lekhanya Holds Press Conference

MB261311 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The chairman of the Military Council and Council of Ministers, Major General J.M. Lekhanya, says the military took power simply to save the people of this country from the dangers resulting from the lawlessness that characterized the last days of the previous regime. Answering a question by a foreign journalist today on the return to civilian rule, Maj Gen J.M. Lekhanya said the present government intends to stay on until true reconciliation has been achieved, when a return to barracks will follow. He, however, said that their return to the barracks will definitely be determined by the people.

Asked on his relationships with his majesty, Maj Gen Lekhanya said they are cordial if they are between the head of state and head of government, and that this by itself determines the constitutional relationship. On the question of party political activities, he said they had been suspended by law and as far as he was concerned the country was plunged into a state of crisis by the irresponsible and criminal behavior of party political opportunists and self-seekers, who were prepared to sacrifice the lives of the people to achieve their own selfish ends.

He said the Lesotho Royal Defense Force was split into two by the ruling clique, who were desirous of promoting a private army for themselves, while on the other hand the so-called Liberation Army was killing fellow Basotho, on the instructions of another clique of party politicians. These party political games had only one victim, the people of Lesotho, he said, and that he believed therefore that they, the people of Lesotho, must be given a break which they so much deserve.

Asked about South African refugees, Maj Gen Lekhanya said those members of the South African refugee community, including members of the ANC whose safety Lesotho could not guarantee, were asked to leave the country under the auspices of the UNHCR [United Nations High Commission on Refugees] and since the military takeover, about 100 people departed in this manner and that the process continues. He added that the ANC has no diplomatic presence in Lesotho. Maj Gen Lekhanya said that Lesotho, as a signatory to the UN Convention on Refugees and related protocols, will continue to provide asylum to genuine refugees.

The Lesotho Government has declared a general and unconditional amnesty in favor of all Basothos who left their country for political reasons, including Mr Ntsu Mokhetle, Maj Gen Lekhanya said in answer in relation to the attitude of the Lesotho Government to the reported presence in South Africa of Mr Ntsu Mokhetle. When asked about the general conditions of the amnesty, he said it had been received by Basotho both inside and outside the country and that necessary statistics relating to returnees are being prepared.

On the status of investigations into the deaths of three people in detention, he said postmortems were carried out by three pathologists on each of the deceased. One pathologist was a government pathologist, while the other two were engaged by the families of the deceased and the government, respectively, and they are awaiting their reports. However, the government has already ordered an inquest into the circumstances surrounding each of the deaths.

When asked on the number of detained members of the former government, the major general pointed out that members of the former government have been detained for questioning on an ad hoc basis. He continued that the government thinks it is in the national interest and in the interest of true reconciliation to establish the role of these individuals in the criminal activities of the previous regime, and was confident that these questionings will lead to court appearances by some or all of them.

On the definition of Lesotho's relations with South Africa, he said that Lesotho's relations with South Africa are characterized by the spirit of neighborliness. On the question of Lesotho's ties with communist countries, Maj Gen Lekhanya said that the present Government of Lesotho will continue the policy of non-alignment, but he added that, however, it reserves the right to review any of the relationships established by the previous regime.

Party Leaders Seek 'Urgent Talks' With Government

MB271427 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1352 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Maseru, March 27, SAPA — The leaders of the four main political parties in Lesotho today called for urgent talks with the country's military rulers aimed at achieving a solution to the country's political problems.

A statement issued by the leaders of the four parties today said representatives of the parties met the exiled leader of the Basotholand Congress Party, and commander-in-chief of the Lesotho Liberation Army, Mr Ntsu Mokehle, in Johannesburg this week.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the "restoration of peace and stability in the country," the statement said. It added that the talks were "warm and cordial" and took place in an "international" (multi-racial) hotel in Johannesburg.

It said the significance of the meeting was an agreement reached to work together to achieve a peaceful solution to Lesotho's political problems. The leaders also called for the restoration of the 1966 independence constitution suspended in 1970 by the former prime minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan.

The four parties represented at the talks were: The Marematlou Freedom Party, the United Democratic Party, the National Independent Party, and the Basotholand Congress Party.

MOZAMBIQUE

Chipande Reappointed Defense Minister; Others Named

MB281419 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] In the framework of the implementation of the recent decisions made by the Political Bureau, Marcelino dos Santos resumes his full-time post as secretary of the People's Assembly Standing Commission. This is reported in a communique of the Political Bureau published in Maputo today.

The document also mentions the appointment of other Political Bureau members to the leadership of various sectors. Thus, Alberto Joaquim Chipande resumes his full-time post as minister of national defense. Armando Emilio Guebuza supervises agriculture, light, and food industry, internal trade and tourism. Jorge Rebelo will be responsible for the party's ideological work and supervise the social sector, namely education, health, justice, information, culture and sports. Mario da Craca Machungo will supervise planning, finances, banking, foreign trade, labor, salary and prices, transport and communications, mineral resources, industry and energy, and construction and water affairs. Jose Oscar Monteiro will deal with party organization.

The communique states that the Political Bureau decided that the main issue to be solved was for the party to resume its role as the leading force of the state and society, a role which in practice was being played by government organs.

SOUTH AFRICA

Le Grange Bans Open Air Meetings for 1 Year

MB271519 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1515 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — A notice prohibiting outdoor public gatherings, with certain exceptions, under Section 46 (3) of the Internal Security Act — deemed necessary for the maintenace of public peace — for 12 months from next Tuesday, was gazetted in Pretoria today.

Indoor gatherings to promote school boycotts or work stayaways are also banned. Sport is not affected.

The promulgation, signed by the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, prohibits any gathering in the republic from April 1 this year up to and including March 31, 1987, "except any gathering for the purpose of a bona fide sport occasion or which is held within a building."

The promulgation also prohibits any gathering in any building in the republic during this period, "if such a gathering is a gathering organised, convened or held or otherwise brought about to:

— "Advise, encourage, propagate, advocate or promote the non-attendance or opposition to the attendance of any school, college, university or other educational institution by any person; or

— "Advise, encourage, instigate or incite, except in so far as it is not prohibited in terms of Section 65 of the Labour Relations Act, 1956 (Act 28 of 1956), any person to leave his work or service or not to return to such work or service, or to delay or impede it."

The prohibitions will not apply to any gathering expressly authorised by Mr le Grange, or, subject to the provisions of Section 46 (3) of the Internal Security Act, by the magistrate of the district in which the gathering is to be held." [quotation marks as received]

AZAPO Vows To Contest Ban

MB271806 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1803 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Johannesburg, March 27, SAPA — AZAPO [Azanian People's Organization] today promised to contest a ban — "intended to cripple and kill efforts to resolve the problems facing black people" — on unauthorised outdoor gatherings and indoor gatherings to promote school boycotts or work stayways.

In a statement released in Johannesburg today, the Azanian People's Organisation said: "Le Grange (the minister of law and order, Mr Louis Le Grange) and his coterie of racist capitalists must realise that black people cannot be dragooned and coerced into accepting a rotten and evil system".

The organisation stated it would contest the ban, which begins on April 1, through all available channels.

"Education is one of the most important problems facing Azania today," the statement said.

The promulgation by Mr le Grange of the notice prohibiting certain gatherings was intended to cripple and kill efforts to resolve the problems facing black people, particularly in the educational sphere, AZAPO said.

"We of Azapo as the overt liberation movement in Azania, realise that the oppressive system wishes to put to death the efforts of open criticism and action by the black people against continued oppression.

"We are also aware that the white South African system wants to drive overt political activity undergound as happened when the old organisations were banned in the 1960's.

"The emergence of the overt black consciousness philosophy through SASO (the South African Students Organisation) killed the political lull of the 1960's.

"The South African regime should learn that the stifling of overt political action has led to the increase of covert activity in the form of the PAC (Pan Africanist Congress), ANC (African National Congress) and the Black Consciousness Movement of Azania.

"We shall not accept the promulgation lying down and shall contest it through all available channels."

PFP: Government Responsible for Winterveld Violence

MB271211 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1145 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — Scores of people arrested by Bophuthatswana police in Winterveld yesterday appeared in court today.

A spokesman for the Ga-Rankuwa Magistrates Court said it was difficult to disclose figures of those who had already appeared, but he added their number was "substantial."

Figures released by the police department in Mmabatho said at least 2,500 people were arrested while the number of those injured was still being ascertained. The official death toll was still 11.

Meanwhile, the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] unrest monitoring committee chairman, Mr Chris Gilfillan, commenting on yesterday's bloodshed in Winterveld, said the South African Government was very much responsible for what was happening in "its independent states."

The spiralling violence in Bophuthatswana could no longer be ignored by the South African Government, he added.

He said he questioned the morality behind providing "vast" amounts of money to the states and then allowing them to do exactly what they wished to their people.

According to Mr Gilfillan's information the Bophuthatswana police had agreed to talk to the people of Winterveld about certain grievances which nullified allegations that it was an "illegal gathering." The grievances concerned alleged detentions made last weekend. It is believed the youngest alleged detainee is eight years of age.

This morning, the BBC reported two French doctors who work at a Roman Catholic clinic in Winterveld were among those arrested. It is not yet known if the men have been released. A spokesman for the French Embassy, Mr Jean-Louis Duclion, said he had no details on the matter.

The wife of Mr Sam Motsenyane, chairman of the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce (NAFCOC), was also allegedly seriously injured and arrested at Winterveld.

Bophuthatswana minister of defence, Brigadier Hennie Riekert, was not immediately available for comment.

French Doctors Hold Press Conference on Beatings

MB271447 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1427 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — Two French doctors told a Pretoria press conference today that they had been beaten indiscriminately by Bophuthatswana police during the Winterveld shooting incident. Their arms, backs and chests bore witness to the beatings they allegedly received.

Among allegations they made was that police savagely beat people in police custody and that a policeman opened fire on pedestrians from a moving police van.

The doctors, Dr Vincent Faucherre, 31, and Dr Benedict Chaneut, 29, were at the Roman Catholic mobile clinic in Winterveld yesterday when they heard shots.

"It sounded like fireworks and we jumped in the car to go and see what was happening," said Dr Faucherre. "We saw policemen beating women and children. There were people running through the veld."

Dr Faucherre approached an armed plainclothes man, saying: "I am a doctor. You cannot do that." He then went to a colonel who allegedly pushed him and told two policemen to take him away.

In reply to a question, he said he was not sure whether the colonel witnessed his subsequent beating by the two policemen. The sjambokking lasted for two to three minutes. When Dr Chaneut rushed to his assistance she was also assaulted. She demonstrated how she was punched in the jaw by a policemen. Both were arrested, put in a van and taken to the Ga-Rankuwa police station. They were held in the yard with about 1,000 other people.

"We are not speaking for ourselves. We are speaking for those who are still being detained," she said. Throughout the afternoon they sat huddled in the police station yard as "laughing young policemen walked among us, kicking and beating us." "They are laughing, always laughing," said Dr Chaneut, who has only been in the country for two months. She said she would gladly stay and continue her work among the needy.

Police allegedly prevented anybody from speaking to them.

"When we tried to tell them we were from France they refused to believe us and accused us of being communists and terrorists," Dr Chaneut said.

About 8pm the French Embassy contacted the police station and after that they were treated better. "One policeman offered me cigarettes and water. It seemed like they wanted to be forgiven," she said.

Dr Faucherre said that a man who was standing behind him inside the police station was savagely beaten by a policeman. "It was terrible. Everybody was being beaten."

On his way to retrieve his car, Dr Faucherre said one of his police escorts fired two shots from his rifle as the car drove past pedestrians. He did not see if anyone had been hit "as the car was moving too fast and it was dark." The doctors will not be laying charges. Dr Faucherre was due to return to France yesterday.

White Papers on Influx Control, ID's Being Prepared

MB261254 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Preparatory work to eliminate influx control in its current form and to make provision for a uniform identity document for all population groups is at an advanced stage.

Our political news staff reports that a white paper concerning urbanization, which is to replace influx control, will soon be presented to the cabinet for its consideration, and it will then go before Parliament.

The white paper, which is being drawn up by the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning, will spell out the government's new urbanization policy, which eliminates all aspects of discrimination. The white paper will also give an indication of how existing legislation will be affected in achieving this aim, and what new legislation relating to it will be introduced.

Legislation on the uniform identity document system for all population groups, which is handled by the Department of Home Affairs, has also been finalized and will be published soon.

29 Organizations To Attend Natal Indaba

MB270908 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0844 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, March 27, SAPA — The organisers of the KwaZulu/Natal "indaba" said today that 29 out of 40 organisations invited to take part had so far accepted.

In addition, the National Party and TUCSA [Trade Union Council of South Africa] are sending observers.

Two organisations have officially confirmed they will not participate in this event — and the organisers are busy contacting the remaining seven who have not responded officially although some have indicated in press reports they will not participate.

An indaba spokesman said the seven organisations were the African National Congress, the Azanian People's Organisation, the Conservative Party, Council of Unions of SA, Congress of SA Trade Unions, the Pan African Congress and the United Democratic Front.

The two definite "no's" have come from the Herstigte Nasionale Party [Reformed National Party] and the Natal Indian Congress.

The indaba will seek consensus on proposals to be put to the central government on the creation of a single leagislative body to govern the combined area of Natal and Kwazulu at second-tier level. It starts in Durban next Thursday.

The list of acceptances is: the Afrikaanse Sakekamer [Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce] (Natal Region), the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut, [Afrikaans Trade Institute] the Black Allied Workers Union, Coloured Ad Hoc Committee, Durban City Council, Durban Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, Inkatha, Inyanda Chamber of Commerce, the Islamic Council, Kwa-Loga, Kwazulu Canegrowers Association, KwaZulu Government, Labour Party, Natal Agricultural Union, Natal Association of LACS [Expansion unknown], Natal Chamber of Industries, Natal Municipal Association, Natal Provincial Council, National People's Party, New Republic Party, People's Congress Party, Progressive Federal Party, Pietermaritzburg City Council, Reform Party, Regional Advisory Committee, SA Hindu Maha Sabha, SA Sugar Association/SA Canegrowers, Solidarity, the National Council of African Women.

Police Confirm SAAWU Leader, Others Detained

MB271851 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1821 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] East London, March 27, SAPA — Police here today confirmed the detention of the branch organiser of the South

African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU), Mr Sicelo Ndevu, and 19 others of whom three have been released.

A statement by SAAWU called upon the police to release Mr Ndevu and those who were arrested with him while attending the launching of the Mooiplaas Residents Organisation. The statement said the release should be unconditional as the meeting was legal because the Mooiplaas residents had obtained a permit to hold it.

"The branch committee of SAAWU is looking for some possibilities of taking further steps if Mr Ndevu and the others arrested with him are not released with immediate effect," the statement said.

The arrests were made on March 22. The border police liaison officer, Lieutenant Dot van der Vyver, said an application had been made for a permit to hold a meeting at Mooiplaas, but a permit was not needed. However, she said, a meeting was held for a different reason as to what was applied for. The detainees were held under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act.

SACP's Mabhida Funeral To Be Held in Maputo

MB271552 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1500 GMT
27 Mar 86

[Text] The funeral for South African Communist Party [SACP] general secretary, Moses Mabhida, has been called off. It was scheduled for Pietermaritzburg this weekend, but the family who are from the city were afraid there would be violence between police and mourners if it went ahead. Carmel Rickard has the story:

[Rickard] The family of Moses Mabhida has announced that the funeral plans have been changed. It was to have taken place in Pietermaritzburg on Monday, but last night that city's chief magistrate imposed a number of tough conditions. These included a ban on anyone but family and closest friends attending the funeral and a ban on political speeches and songs. A meeting between the organizers and their lawyers with the authorities in Pietermaritzburg today did not achieve any compromise and a large number of police and army reinforcements have already been brought into the city to ensure that the funeral conditions are observed.

This was communicated to the family who are in Maputo to collect the body of the SACP leader, and they have decided to call it off. Instead the funeral will take place in Maputo on Saturday.

9 Arrested for Murder of 2 on Langa Anniversary

MB261218 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0922 GMT
26 Mar 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, March 26, SAPA — Nine people — one a 40-year-old woman — have been arrested in connection with the apparent burning to death of two people who did not take part in functions to mark the first anniversary last Friday of the Langa shootings.

Police told SAPA's correspondent today the two dead were Mr Thobil Dike, 40, whose charred body was found in his house at Adelaide's black township near here, and 16-year-old Nomfundsino Mhlawu, a high school prefect who was found under a pile of burning tyres near Mr Dike's house.

Mr Dike apparently went to work last Friday and did not attend functions to mark the Langa tragedy. Miss Mhlawu apparently had refused last Friday to attend a Langa meeting at her school. The youngest of those arrested is 16.

Paratroopers Patrol Peninsula Townships

MB271949 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1948 GMT
27 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 27, SAPA — Paratroopers in buffel armoured cars patrolled peninsula townships today after violence earlier this week left two policemen and at least four residents dead.

It is the first time parabats have been seen in local townships during the current wave of unrest.

Police today confirmed the identities of two men shot dead by police during a stoning incident in Crossroads on Wednesday night. They were Mr Goodman Bongani Dastile of Nyanga and Mr Thabang Maphalane also of Nyanga.

He said that, in another incident this morning, several shots were fired at a police patrol van in Crossroads. Nobody was injured. Police had not returned fire as they could not see their attackers, he said.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 27 Mar

MB271625 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1619 GMT
27 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — The following is the evening unrest report from the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria.

"In Old Crossroads near Cape Town, a number of shots were fired at a SAP (South African Police) vehicle, but there were no injuries or damage caused.

"At the Regtershoop station in the northern Transvaal, a mob of blacks threw stones at a passenger train. There was no damage caused.

"At Mooiplaas, in the border district, a mob petrol bombed private residences causing substantial damage.

"At Mbekweni, near Paarl, blacks threw a petrol bomb at a delivery vehicle causing a fair amount of damage.

"In Soweto, Witwatersrand, a number of blacks looted a delivery vehicle resulting in substantial loss.

"In another incident black men slashed a private vehicle's tyres and broke all the windows causing serious damage."

Ends report.

Early 28 Mar

MB280523 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0519 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 28, SAPA — Following is the unrest situation report until 7am today issued by the Public Relations Division of the SAP.

"At Lamontville near Durban a black man was slightly injured when a bus was stoned and at KwaMashu, also near Durban, a private home was damaged when it was set on fire.

"At Tembisa on the East Rand a black policemen was murdered and his body set on fire."

Government May Be 'Forced' To Intervene in Unrest

MB280918 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Station commentary: "Unrest and Discipline"]

[Text] The South African Government has been more than tolerant in its efforts to end the unrest which has been plaguing the country over the past 18 months. It has lifted the partial emergency and has used it security forces only to a limited extent in an effort to assist the country's black communitites to themselves end the violence which, until now, has affected mainly them.

But it appears that the black communities, of which the vast majority are against violence and in favor of a peacefully negotiated solution to South Africa's constitutional and political problems, are so intimidated by fear of the minority groups of radicals and their barbarous deeds that they are incapable of ending the violence without stronger supportive action from the government and its security forces.

For months before the lifting of the emergency, which covered only 36 of the country's 265 districts at any one time and lasted only 8 months, radicals and their organizations continuously clamored for its lifting, promising that the unrest would immediately end. But a month has passed since the ending of the emergency, and it is now becoming increasingly clear that the radicals have no intention of keep this promise of ending the violence. They have failed the test, and the results are there for the world to see.

Just before Easter, 28 blacks died over a period of 30 hours in some of the worst outbreaks of barbarism and violence during the 18 months of unrest, and the ANC has threatened an escalation of violence into white cities and towns.

If black communities continue to prove themselves unable to put the barbarous radicals in their place, the government will sooner or later be forced to use its might to assist the vast majority of moderate blacks to end the unrest, and thus pave the way for constructive negotiations without the disruptive influence of the Soviet Union's terrorist tools wielded by barbarous radicals.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report]

NIC Not To Participate in Indaba

"The Natal Indian Congress [NIC] has resolved not to participate in the Natal/KwaZulu indaba until the communities and the democratic organizations likely to be affected by the decision have been consulted," Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 24 March reports on page 3. At a meeting to discuss the indaba, the NIC also demanded the release of Nelson Mandela, the unbanning of banned organizations, and "the creation of a climate for democratic political activity."

CAPE TIMES on Violence

In an editorial on page 10, the paper says that violence, "in spite of blandly misleading news coverage in the broadcast media and elsewhere," is becoming "more virulent by the day." Black-on-black violence accounts for one-third of black unrest-related deaths while "the newest scourge to appear — white vigilantism — is perhaps the most dangerous potentially and could in time tear this country apart." There are, however, alternatives to violence. The ANC and other banned organizations should be unbanned and then drawn into the political process. This, however, cannot be done while the "Afrikaner Nationalist establishment" retains its belief "that it is possible to pacify the country by force, bludgeoning dissidents into submission." South Africans seem all too quick to forget the lessons of Rhodesia, where "impressive 'kill rates' and repeated military successes by fair means or foul ultimately availed nothing." This "misplaced faith in the efficacy of violence" can also be found in the "African nationalist camp," and neither side seems willing to "profit by the lessons of history. Unless these dispositions change, the bloodletting will continue with no prospect of relief in sight."

CAPE TIMES on Race Classification

In a second editorial on the same page, the paper says that the fact that over 1,000 people were reclassified from one race group to another demonstrates that "racial discrimination is alive and well. There would be no need for people to change their racial status if all races enjoyed similar treatment and equal political, economic, and social benefits." The fact that most people moved up the scale by being reclassified to a more privileged group "strongly suggested an eagerness to escape the penalties inherent in the apartheid system."

RSC's Criticized

In the "Civic Diary" column on page 11, Hilary Venables writes that "the harder the government tries to disguise its elaborate new plan for local government as a triumph for democracy, the clearer it becomes that the whole charade is nothing more than an attempt to placate its opposition while maintaining domination over a powerless majority." Although the government has issued a pamphlet saying that the new regional service councils [RSC's] will broaden democracy, eliminate the domination of one group over another, and provide efficient local government and promote development, a report from the University of Cape Town's Urban Problems Research Unit has found that the central government will maintain tight control over local authorities and the distribution of votes and the regional method of financing "will aggravate rather than eliminate inequalities between white and black." In place of the RSC's the report recommends a system of local government in which each person over 18 gets a single and equal vote, and which provides for devices to "encourage participation by all citizens and enable 'disadvantaged groups' to have an equal say in decision-making."

Banning Orders To Be Challenged

In a report on page 2 of Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 25 March, the paper says that Priscilla Jana, attorney for Mordekai Mothibe Tatse, has confirmed that her client intends to challenge his banning order. "However, all of the people who are known to be banned are expected to challenge their orders" after the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court found the banning order of Mkhuseli Jack invalid.

Unemployed Group Condemns Use of Funds

"The Unemployed Workers Movement said in a statement yesterday that it was 'disgusted' at reports that the government had decided to use R6-million from its emergency feeding scheme, which was returned to the Treasury for other purposes," the *CAPE TIMES* reports on page 10. A spokesman for the movement said " 'it is the three-and-a-half million unemployed and their families who are in real need of this feeding scheme because of inadequate unemployment benefits.' "

CAPE TIMES on Jack Unbanning

"The Minister of Law and Order should welcome the court decision invalidating his banning of an Eastern Cape community leader, Mr Mkhuseli Jack, not reimpose the ban," the paper says in an editorial on page 12. "Any action to impose new banning orders would do further damage to race relations in the Eastern Cape. It would prompt more calls for sanctions and disinvestment. The best thing to do in this case is nothing."

CAPE TIMES on Heunis

In a second editorial on the same page, the paper discusses an earlier editorial criticizing Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis' absence from a debate in the House of Representatives. However, the paper has since learned that Heunis did attend the beginning of the debate and says "we greatly regret the error and we apologise to Mr Heunis." Nevertheless, Labor Party leader Allan Hendrickse was so angered by Heunis' early departure from the House that he closed the debate early. "Although a break-down in liaison over the Minister's intended presence" may be at fault, "if Mr Heunis can antagonize political 'friends' in this way, what hope does he have of reconciling more hostile forces?"

Call for Less Regulation

"The apartheid system has made all South Africans too ready to accept controls, the chairman of the Standard Bank Investment Corporation (Stanbic), Mr P.P. de Villiers, said in the annual report," Audrey D'Angelo reports on page 25. " 'To revert to a system of increased governmental intervention would in my view represent a step backwards on the path used towards more efficient use of resources. Moves toward an open society cannot easily take place within a framework of close regulation.' " De Villiers added.

Opening of CBD's

In another article on the same page, D'Angelo reports that "black, coloured, and Asian businessmen will soon start to fill up the shops and offices standing vacant in central business districts (CBD's) in the opinion of Anglo American Property Services." In its March property review, the company says that the opening of the CBD's will have a major impact on the property market and "must also 'pave the way to the total abandonment of the Group Areas Act.' "

Fazzie Reported Unbanned

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 26 March reports on its front page that the banning order of Eastern Cape community activist Henry Fazzie was set aside at the same time as the orders of Trevor Manuel, Johnny Issel, and Rowley Arenstein. "When the application for Fazzie was brought before Mr Justice F. Kroon yesterday, H.J. Liebenberg, for the minister, told the court he had been instructed that the minister, in view of a recent decision of the Appeal Court, was prepared to concede that Fazzie could take his banning as having been set aside."

Government To Profit From Wheat Imports

"Government is likely to make a profit of about R25m on the importation of 300,000 tons of wheat this year," Gerald Reilly reports on page 5. "And the profit could be used to minimise the October bread price increase, Pretoria sources say."

Employers Seek To End Removal

"Employers are to ask government to end the removal of blacks from Old Brits to the new township of Lethlabile, near Bophuthatswana," Thelma Tuch reports on the same page. Representatives of the Federated Chambers of Industries, the Steel and Engineering Federation, the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union, the Metal and Allied Workers Union, and the Brits Action Committee attended a meeting in Brits which discussed the removals as well as "police harassment, banning of meetings, and the need to upgrade the township."

Heunis Confirms Munsieville To Stay

On the same page, Chris Cairncross says that Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis has said that "the township of Munsieville, which residents of nearby Krugersdorp have demanded should be removed, is there to stay."

Government To Tighten Control Over Diamonds

In another article on the same page, Cairncross notes that the government intends to tighten controls over the diamond industry, placing it totally under the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs. The diamond industry is currently divided among three departments.

BUSINESS DAY on Gold

In an editorial on page 8, the paper notes that the U.S.-Libyan conflict might temporarily boost the price of gold as would the possibility of a revival of inflationary fears. However, "only if the Mediterranean incident leads to wider disturbances and inflationary possibilies become probabilities will a gold price rise be substantive."

BUSINESS DAY on Rand

In a second editorial on the same page, the paper says that "yesterday's sharp drop in the value of the rand is probably a signal that the foreign exchange market is not convinced by Finance Minister Barend du Plessis' sweet words of comfort about the present outcome of the foreign debt negotiations." Although the minister's statement was probably factual, "after many years of Treasury assurances that have come to nothing, it is not surprising that the government's credibility stands at a deep discount." Crucial to the value of the rand is government spending; if it exceeds the 14 percent projected, as widely expected, it will cut into the payments surplus and lower the currency. "Credibility in currency markets is hard won and easily eroded," the paper concludes.

White Rightwing

On page 6 of *BUSINESS DAY*, Stanley Uys reports from London that "a new spectre is haunting SA — the spectre of the white right-wing. Its spokesmen claim it is growing at a rate of 7 percent a year, as voters turn away from President Botha's reform programme." Reviewing recent right-wing successes, Uys says until last year analysts would have said there was a built-in ceiling on the rightwing's growth potential, but two new factors are causing a reevaluation: "white fears that the black unrest will spread into white residential areas; and a decline in white living standards, caused not only by the economic recession but also by the transference of state spending from whites to blacks under the reform program." According to Reformed National Party Leader Louis Stofberg, " 'The spearhead of Afrikaner nationalism today is no longer the platteland, but the indistrial workers in the cities,' " and he predicted that " 'we can destroy the NP [National Party] politically. It is only a question of time.' " A Cape Town professor predicts that if the rightwing can win enough by-elections to attract financial support, it might win one-third of the seats in the next national election, and he expects the reasons will be socioeconomic as the government cuts back on the massive subsidies the whites have enjoyed. A professor at Stellenbosch University pointed out that the Afrikaners had been the underdogs before the 1960s, then had moved into typically middle class lifestyles and could not accept the possiblility of a drop in living standards; these people were the core of the rightwing support.

Current Account Surplus

The *RESERVE BANK QUARTERLY BULLETIN* reports that "the surplus on the current account of the balance of payments for 1985 was R7.1bn, 6 percent of the Gross Domestic Product," the paper reports on page 9. The sharp rise in exports to R35,478 billion is largely attributable to a weak exchange rate. "The capital account of the balance of payments is less satisfying." There was a net capital outflow of R10.4 billion, although the tempo of the short-term capital leaving the country declined after the introduction of the financial rand last September. The influx of long-term capital from abroad, particularly from loans, dried up after the debt freeze.

Wits Bans Guards

The University of Witwatersrand yesterday ordered off campus private security guards hired to protect members of the Student Moderate Alliance (SMA) at the University, Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 26 March reports on page 8. The university registrar said that private security guards were not permitted on campus. The SMA issued a statement condemning " 'the restrictions that the university has placed on academic freedom and freedom of speech.' "

Five Die in Phalaborwa

The Azanian People's Organization [AZAPO] announced on 25 March that "five people were shot dead and an undisclosed number" detained, including AZAPO officials, at Phalaborwa over the weekend, Johannebsurg *SOWETAN* in English on 26 March reports on page 1. A police spokesman in Pretoria, however, denied in a telex to the paper that the shooting had occurred or that people had been detained. A policeman in Lebowa said he was still attempting to determined what had happened.

Black Education

"Students did not want an education equal to that of whites but were fighting for a new education system that was free, equal, democratic and dynamic," according to a member of the United Democratic Front subcommittee on education, the paper reports on page 2. "He said students saw the education system as preparing them for subservience and dividing them into classes and ethnic groups. It gave students no vision of a better society." The type of "dynamic" education sought was a " 'people's education' that was fair and just and that met the needs of every individual." " 'White' education did not meet those needs."

Reprieve for Squatters

On page 3, the paper reports that "the West Rand Board has decided not to move the squatters who live on the Vlafontein Farm in Lenasia." An official said the squatters could remain where they were until they find alternative accommodation. Aid was offered for those wanting to return to their homelands.

SOWETAN on Children Arrested

In an editorial on page 4, the paper discusses Law and Order Minister le Grange's rejection of a petition by 14 women's organisations on the treatment of children by the police. "We were impressed by these women's stance which showed that they are at last joining the campaign to take township violence and its causes to the highest level. These perceptions are serious. Only when the government appoints a commission to study the allegations will most people feel happy. As things stand, the minister's denial will not allay suspicions and fears."

Suzman on Children

In an article on page 5, the paper reports Progressive Federal Party spokesman Helen Suzman's reply to Le Grange's rejection of the petition on police treatment of children. She said that "the only way Mr le Grange would establish the facts was to appoint a judicial commission specifically to investigate whether the police were torturing detainees." Le Grange rejected the charges as "unsubstantiated" and unfair to the SAP. Suzman said, however, "the whole issue needed the closest and most objective investigation."

Atteridgeville Mayor's Statement

On page 16, the paper reports a statement by Matthew Mahlangu, mayer of Atteridgeville, condemning " 'in the strongest possible terms' " "the stopping of the local traders' vehicles by the security forces from transporting food supplies into the township." He said the blockade would only cause " 'more hardships for our residents, especially in the light of the current consumer boycott. This may lead to a heightening of tension in the town and could possibly lead to rioting.' " He said the council does not believe such action would stop the boycott. In another story on page 17, the paper reports the mayor as appealing to local youth to stop hijacking the town council's vehicles, following the death of an 8-year-old when a group of youths tried to take over a council vehicle.

Mkhuseli Jack Profiled

In a profile of Mkhuseli Jack on page 19, the paper quotes Jack as saying that blacks need whites on their side. Jack said the success of the consumer boycott proved that the consumer boycott committee had been successful in "convincing whites that they should join the struggle for freedom." " 'All of us won't be free while this government is in power and unwilling to change. We must force it to change so that we can have a nonracial and democratic country. For that we need whites on our side. The consumer boycott has convinced some whites that they must join the struggle for freedom.' " He said he knew he ran the risk of " 'elimination by faceless cowards.' " He keeps moving around to avoid this.

Reworded Banning Notices Likely

The Johannesburg *STAR* in English on 26 March carries a report on page 1 by political correspondent David Braun that reworded banning notices are likely to be served on most of those whose restriction orders have been invalidated by recent court decisions. Those whose orders were due to have expired within the next few months may not be banned again. This "deduction" is based on the acknowledgement by the minister of law and order that orders he had served on several people were " 'of no force or effect.' " Neither the minister nor his office would comment "other than to say the matter was being considered." The government is likely to amend the legislation providing for bannings, the article says, and the law and order minister is expected to review each case to determine whether to issue new orders.

Johannesburg Perpetuating Apartheid

Johannesburg City Councillor Pieter Shoeman has accused the city council of perpetuating apartheid in the city, a page 3 article reports. He was debating the merits of the Fordsburg Redevelopment Plan for Indians, which he said was an implementation of the Group Areas Act. He criticized the council for "creating artificially high prices by inviting 28,000 Indians into the highly desirable piece of land near the city." He said the city would be a better place if town planning could be based purely on town planning rules and not on color.

Increased Debts, Civil Judgments

Another page 3 article says South Africans got deeper into debt in 1985 and civil judgments granted against business and individuals totalled more than R1.251 million. Quoting figures released by the Central Statistical Services, the article says the figures show a jump of 17.7 percent in the number of civil summonses issued for debt last year and a 15.7 percent increase in the number of judgments compared with 1984. Debts relating to the judgments rocketed by 89.1 percent. Judgments granted against business enterprises totalled R676 million and those against individuals R574 million.

Statistics on Business Districts

A total of 63 local authorities had submitted proposals to the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning to open central business districts to all race groups, Minister Chris Heunis told Parliament, a page 4 article says. Of these, 41 had been accepted, 10 were still being considered, and 12 proposals "could not be considered and were being held over."

Repatriation of Workers

Another page 4 article quotes Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Heunis as telling the House of Assembly that last year 24,514 foreign black workers were repatriated. The breakdown was: Mozambique 20,522; Zimbabwe 2,939; Lesotho 460; Swaziland 398; and Botswana 195.

Colored Affairs Budget Criticized

Another report from Parliament on the same page quotes Silvertown Labor Party MP Frederick Peters as saying it is "unacceptable" that the colored own affairs budget had only increased by R343 million while the white budget had risen by R2 billion. " 'Our budget is peanuts, pocket money. We receive R1.7 billion, they receive R4.5 billion.' " Opposition leader Dennis de la Cruz said the difference was even more unfavorable when one considered the coloreds' backlog in housing, education and social services. Only R869.5 million had been allocated for colored education compared to the R3.069 million for whites. "It was these inequalities in education which triggered the present crisis in the country," he said.

Softer Line on ANC

Political correspondent David Braun reports on page 7 that the government "appears to be taking a softer line towards South Africans who insist on holding talks with the African National Congress." Home Affairs Minister Stoffel Botha has declined to comment on the resolutions taken on two English university campuses the past week, and by his reaction it would seem he is "taking a more moderate line." It is understood that many ministers feel it is counterproductive to stop people going to Lusaka, Braun writes. They believe the publicity is not worth the effort and, in any case, people who have defied the government's wishes have their "eyes opened by what they have seen and heard."

Editorial on Bread Prices

The government's decision not to increase the price of bread bears all the hallmarks of a last-minute deviation from original planning, a page 8 editorial says. With R70 million cut from the budget's bread subsidy, the price could only be kept down by robbing Peter to pay Paul — in this case the Wheat Board. Consumers will go along with this, the editorial says. Better to keep the price down now and let the future look after itself. "But there will unavoidably be a price to pay — and probably within six months."

STAR on Convention

The text of another editorial reads: "In microcosm, this was the story of our lives. Originally the seminar on 'South Africa in crisis' at Wilton Park in Britain was billed as a trial national convention. The entire political spectrum would be there. Then ... Pretoria refused the AZAPO man a passport; the NP [National Party] said it wasn't policy to be at meetings attended by the ANC; the ANC pulled out anyway, and other black delegates withdrew because of the absence of the ANC and the presence of Inkatha. The rest milled about angrily blaming the media. It was very good training for a real national convention."

New Black Township

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans of 26 March carries a report on page 4 which states that investigations are under way on the possible use of an area west of Verwoerdburg for a new black town, but that nothing has yet been decided. This was said by an official of the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning, in reaction to rumors that a "large new black town" was to be established on the western border of Verwoerdburg. "The spokesman said it is the duty of the department to continuously examine the possible use of land for among other things residential or urban development for all population groups."

Pretoria Boycott

On the same page, reporter Jan Taljaard reports that despite the total consumer boycott called for the black townships north of Pretoria, consumers are nevertheless buying in increasing numbers from white shops. "Large retail groups have noted a sharp drop in sales from Monday. But sales by small establishments in the area were almost normal yesterday." Taxi operators were apparently also wary about taking people to white areas for their purchases.

Meeting on Reconciliation

On page 5 the paper reports that a meeting has been arranged by the moderature of the Dutch Reformed Church of northern Transvaal in an attempt to support an interchurch dialogue on Christian reconciliation, justice, and peace. The gathering will take place under the chairmanship of Prof Johan Heyns, and it is planned for 20 April. It will take place at the Pretoria show ground, and all Christians, churches, and interested groups are invited to attend, in the light of the unrest and violence recently in Pretoria and surrounding areas.

BEELD on Wits Incidents

In an editorial on page 12, the paper says it was bad enough that a group of unruly students at Witwatersrand University were last week allowed to disrupt an address by UNITA speakers, but now the institution's administration has prevented an attempt by moderate students to give the UNITA representatives a second chance to address students on Russian colonialism in Angola. The paper asks: "Can moderates at the university be blamed if they feel the university has shown by this that it no longer has any control over radical elements on the campus? That it succumbs in the face of leftist radical intimidation by elements who refuse to allow any opposition to their dangerous ideologies?" A university should be careful to educate students to become balanced adults, trained to listen to all facts of an issue before forming their opinions. Wits is shirking its duty, the paper concludes.

Krugersdorp Removal

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans of 25 March says on page 6 that an attempt by Conservative Party members of the Krugersdorp Town Council to force a debate on the removal of the black residential area of Munsieville failed narrowly yesterday. Reporter David Malan writes that deputy chairman of the management committee, Clergyman Arrie van Wyk, asked that the order of business of the council agenda be changed so that he could propose a petition be circulated to all adult residents of Krugersdorp protesting against the announcement by the state president that Munsieville would no longer be moved. However, the town pointed out that the agenda could not be changed without a majority consent. Clergyman Van Wyk said he would present his proposals as a motion at the next council meeting.

VADERLAND on Wits Incidents

In an editorial on page 10 the same paper says three UNITA speakers were prevented by unruly students at Witwatersrand University from speaking, and the university authorities, instead of taking action against these students, asked the speakers to leave the campus. "Wits should not blame the public if they get the impression that the university only concerns itself with freedom of speech when the speakers say what its radical students approve of."

Plight of Colored Farmers

In an article on page 23, Gerhard Burgers reports on the plight of South Africa's colored farmers. He reports that there are about 2,000 of them and their case was put before the House of Representatives by Mr James Swigelaar when he called for the removal of all restrictive measures in agriculture. These farmers are not allowed to purchase land for farming; they have to apply for permits to allow them to hire land, and such a permit is not issued if a neighboring farmer objects. The Erika Theron commission had recommended that the permit system be abolished and colored farmers allowed to purchase and farm on land anywhere in the republic, but the restriction still remains on the books. "White immigrants can establish themselves on any area and purchase a farm. But we who are born in South Africa are denied the right to farm where we wish. Our people long to practice agriculture," Mr Swigelaar said. The Agriculture Credit Act makes provision for white farmers to obtain loans at low interest rates, he says, but this is not applicable to colored farmers. Colored farmers are at present found only in 23 registered areas, 21 of which are in the southern Cape and 2 in the Orange Free State. A group of them recently suffered great losses from the locust plague, but they received no compensation, Mr Swigelaar said.

Towns Study Security

On page 1, the Pretoria *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans of 25 March reports that a committee of 10 members has been established by residents of Groblersdal and Marble Hall to look into the security situation of the two towns. About 800 residents attended the meeting last night. The decision to form the committee was taken in the light of increasing unrest in the area. The situation has worsened to such an extent that school children are now driven to school in buses with armed guards.

TRANSVALER on English Universities

In an editorial on page 22 concerning events at Witwatersrand University, the paper asks whether a rogue element has now taken over at the English-speaking universitites. "It certainly seems so. Because the manner in which three UNITA representatives were treated last week at Wits does not comply with the norms of civilized people. Not to mention the countless incidents of radicalism and militancy displayed at this university." The weekend arson attack at Natal University, says the paper, was another indication of the same problem. The English universities will have to do something about these "academic ruffians. Or do they prefer to cuddle these vipers to their breasts?"

'Heated' House of Delegates Debate

Political reporter Ebrahim Moosa reports on page 6 of Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 26 March that "Indian MP's hurled allegations at each other yesterday in one of the most heated debates this session. The chairman of the Ministers Council and cabinet minister without portfolio, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, alleged that there were serious allegations of 'fraud and corruption' in the Springfield seat of Mr Mahmoud Rajab of the Solidarity Party." The allegations arise from a dispute over "some 400 to 500 special votes which were filled in by 'fictitious' persons, Mr Rajbansi said. In an across-the-floor report, Mr Rajab challeged the minister to appoint a parliamentary select committee to investigate the alleged electoral irregularities in his constituency."

Black Housing Shortage

Barry Streek reports on the same page that "despite an official estimate of a shortage of 64,513 houses for black people in the urban areas of South Africa, the 13 development boards constructed only 5,496 houses last year — and more than half were built in the Western Cape." Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis told Parliament that 3,001 houses were built by the Western Cape Development Board, while no houses had been built by the Northern Transvaal, Northern Cape, Southern Free State, Natalia, and Central Transvaal Development Boards. In response to a question from Progressive Federal Party (PFP) leader Colin Eglin, Heunis said there was an estimated shortage of 7,500 houses for black families in the Cape peninsula.

'Racial Blackmail' on Private Schools

In another article on the same page, the paper reports that "a row is brewing over subsidies for private schools in the wake of revelations that these will be linked to the racial composition of each school." PFP MP Roger Burrows told the House of Assembly that in order for schools to get a 45 percent subsidy they would have to be 90 percent white. "Describing the situation as 'racial blackmail,' Mr Burrows said that the South African Catholic Bishops Conference had already indicated that they were not prepared to accept any racial quota system."

Heunis Ignores Colleagues

Another article on the same page reports that Labor Party MP Peter Jacobs told the House of Representatives that "the Minister of Constitutional Affairs, Mr Chris Heunis, held meetings throughout the country with black leaders but was not prepared to talk to his own parliamentary colleagues." Another Labor Party MP said "the government was allowing the country 'to go up in flames' for the sake of a handful of right- and left-wing radicals."

CAPE TIMES on Police Reform

Commenting on the deaths of two policemen in the Cape peninsula in an editorial on page 14, the paper says they are "yet another reminder that violence is far from abating in the country." The fact that one of the policeman was shot "is a relatively new — and ominous — phemonenon. It appears to signal an escalation in urban guerrilla tacts, whether under the direction of the ANC or freelance operators. The next phase, presumably, will be running battles between insurgents and security forces with automatic weapons blazing away on both sides." Since the job of the police and the SADF "is becoming more dangerous by the day," "it is a matter of great concern that the attitude of township-dwellers towards the South African police should be positive rather than negative, as it appears to be at present. The need is for police reform — with much greater sophistication in training and methods and sensitivity in handling inter-racial conflict."

CAPE TIMES on Bread Price

"The postponement of the bread price increase, possibly until October, is good news for consumers, particularly for those hard-pressed families for whom an increase would have meant additional privation," the paper says in another editorial on the same page. "The bread price is a political issue with widespread implications. There is enough violence and unrest, much of it exacerbated by poverty and unemployment, and government actions must bear this in mind. Decisions on subsidies, and even a welcome adherence to free-market principles in the long-term, must be weighed against the short-term promotion of peace and stability."

Credibility 'On Line' Over Nkomati

In the "Politics Midweek" column on page 14 of the *CAPE TIMES*, Michael Acott discusses the 2d anniversary of the Nkomati accord, noting that it "was not a happy occasion for either South Africa or Mozambique." The situation in Mozambique has deteriorated, and although South Africa denies violating the accord, it is "being blamed in Mozambique and the rest of the world. Whatever the truth of the allegations, South Africa has a vested interest in stopping Renamo's depredations, in promoting Mozambique's economic development and in keeping the Marxist President Machel in power." South Africa's "credibility in Africa is on the line" and if it wishes "to be believed by other African states with whom it wishes to do business, and particularly those with whom it wishes to negotiate non-agression pacts, it must deliver on the Nkomati accord, and be seen to be doing so."

Agricultural Land Prices Fall

"The price of agricultural land in some debt-ridden areas has dropped so sharply over the past year that farmers wishing to sell farms have withdrawn them from the market," Linda Ensor reports on page 28. "Several sources claim prices have crashed to an all-time low in distressed areas — by as much as one third in some cases," and the chief economist for the South African Agricultural Union "believes they have declined 'drastically' over the past year."

Exports Increase

"SA trade exports increased by R1.3 bn to R6.5bn in the first two months of the year compared with January-February last year," Gerald Reilly reports on the front page of Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 27 March. "Imports also increased in the two months — by R994.5m to R4.9bn — leaving a favourable trade balance of R1,667.3bn."

Greater School Unrest Possible

"Black educational unrest of greater magnitude than last year could erupt due to the increasing dissatisfaction of pupils with the government's response to their demands, says the National Educational Crisis Committee (NECC)," Thelma Tuch reports on page 3. NECC Publicity Secretary Molefe Tsele told a press conference that while some of the demands, such as the lifting of the state of emergency and the provision of free books and stationery, had been met, troops were still in the townships, detained teachers had not been released, and the Congress of South African Students was still banned. Molefe said that "pupil dissatisfaction had resurfaced because of the delay in meeting demands," and noted that "the crisis had spread to the rural areas where it had become particularly extreme."

Pretoria Boycott Starts 'To Bite'

"Pretoria's consumer boycott has started to bite," Reilly says in another page 3 report. An OK Bazaars manager said " 'the situation is not happy. A lot of black business is being lost.' " A member of the boycott committee and the United Democratic Front said the boycott was "orderly and without intimidation."

Decline of Rand Viewed

"The state of near-panic which, in the short space of seven trading days, effectively devalued the rand by 8.7 percent at its lowpoint yesterday is a reflection of the brittleness of the present state of business confidence," Harold Fridjhon writes on page 3 of *BUSINESS DAY*. The rand lost value because dealers sought to buy dollars in "panic short-buying and forward-covering precipitated by fears of the rand collapsing again." The panic was "based on the assumption that the repayments of foreign debts and interest would drain the reserves of foreign assets which could not be replaced by new borrowing or even rollovers of existing facilities," but "a little-mentioned further reason why the ultra-cautious have been taking precautionary forward cover on their dollar commitments is that some people are apprehensive that township unrest might flare up again at the end of the month. This is because of government's lack of response to the educational and other demands made at a conference organised last December by the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee, virtually giving an ultimatum to the government."

Unemployment, Job Training Discussed

"The many blacks streaming across South Africa's borders in search of work was aggravating the country's already massive unemployment problem, Manpower Director-General Piet van der Merwe told *BUSINESS DAY* yesterday," Gerald Reilly reports on page 4. Van der Merwe said that 264,000 unemployed were trained in the government training programs from late last year until the end of March and the government is spending 60 million rands on the job training program, while another 75 million rands has been allocated for training unemployed workers in basic skills in the new financial year.

Wilton Park Conference

In a report from London on page 4, the paper says that those who attended the Wilton Park conference on South Africa's future in Great Britain, including Fredrik van Zyl Slabbert, University of Witwatersrand Professor Tom Lodge, and Inkatha Secretary General Oscar Dhlomo, discussed "the future of SA ethnic minorities, the regional situation, violence and cleavages within black and white groups" in informal discussions. The black boycott of the conference was also discussed "to see whether this means that future high-level discussions between whites and blacks on SA's future must now be ruled out."

End of Job Reservation Welcomed

"News that agreement is imminent between the Chamber of Mines and white trade unions on the scrapping of job reservation in the mining industry is most welcome," the paper says in an editorial on page 6. "In a society such as ours there is no need for any person — particularly white — to have statutory job protection. The principle underpinning such an approach is fundamentally unsound." Since the mining industry has recently been "a flashpoint for labor unrest," "any move to defuse tensions is to be welcomed. It is now up to the white mining unions to accept the inevitability of progress and reform, and the black unions to put the past behind them."

'New Liberal Constituency' Emerging

In a column on the same page, Ken Owen discusses the emergence of "a new liberal constituency." "The move to reconstruct South African liberalism began at a reunion of black and white Liberal Party members in Grahamstown last June at which four basic principles were tentatively put forward: opposition to government policy, defence against violence and against the violent over-throw of the state, the reconnaissance of new policies, and an exploration of the possibilities of co-operation with government reform initiatives." The movement gained impetus with a series of lectures by University of Cape Town economist Charles Simkins, who believes it is possible for the country " 'to join the league of advanced industrial countries in a generation' " provided its " 'achieved economic capacity and its growth potential are not badly damaged.' " Owen adds that Black Sash member Jill Wentzel told a seminar on liberalism "that liberals had been 'sliding' away from their principles in response to attacks by the hard Left." She "brought into the open for the first time a simmering conflict between old-line liberals and younger hard-line radicals within the Black Sash, accusing Sash members of watering down principles, losing objectivity and condoning violence by the Left." The Grahamstown group will meet again, probably next month in Natal, "to decide whether an attempt to reconstruct liberal values is still worth the effort, or whether the descent into chaos has already gone too far."

Delayed Reforms Heighten Mine Conflict

"The mining industry provides a case study on the way conflict can be generated by delayed or piecemeal reform, according to an authoritative doctoral thesis by Kent McNamara," Claire Pickard-Cambridge writes on page 7. According to McNamara, whose thesis deals with conflicts in the mines from 1972 until unionization in 1982, the "heightened management-worker conflict was partly the result of labour reforms being delayed for over 100 years."

Treurnicht on Power Sharing

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 27 March reports on page 4 that Conservative Party leader Andries Treurnicht asked in the House of Assembly " 'how on earth' the National Party (NP) Government believed it could, with its power sharing policy, create a united society in South Africa out of all the divided communities, as this was impractical." Treurnicht added that "in the government's power sharing policy, there would not be real self-determination for the different communities in the country, particularly not for the whites."

Assistance to Farmers

"The agricultural allocation in the white administration's budget was 'pathetically inadequate,' Mr Ralph Hardingham (NRP [New Republic Party] Mooi River) said yesterday," the paper reports on the same page. Hardingham added that "the R11 billion owed by farmers was 'mind-boggling' and in many areas the forced sale of farms was imminent." Another article on the same page reports that Sarel Hayward, minister of agriculture and water supply in the House of Assembly, told Parliament that "special financial assistance was to be given to farmers in the North-Western and Northern Transvaal to alleviate the 'very serious conditions' prevailing there." "Mr Hayward said it had been decided to pay a subsidy on arrear interest in respect of land and agricultural bank loans to farmers in the designated areas."

CITIZEN on Relations With Lesotho

In an editorial entitled "Good Neighbours" on page 6, the paper discusses Lesotho's General Lekhanya's recent visit to South Africa, which demonstrated that "the two lands are moving significantly towards a better relationship." The joint statement issued after Lekhanya's talks with State President P.W. Botha underlines that "good neighbourliness is the key to the future."

Randburg Cinemas Opened

"All the cinemas in Randburg's central business district have been opened to all races, following recommendations to the government by the town council," Thomson reports on page 12.

WEEKLY MAIL Carries 'Apartheid Barometer'

MB241248 Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL in English 21-27 Mar 86 p 4

["Apartheid Barometer"]

[Excerpts] **Alexandra Toll:**

A total of 17 people have been killed and 115 injured as a result of police action in Alexandra township since February 15 this year, the minister of law and order, Louis le Grange, said. He did not believe it was in the public interest to divulge details of unrest victims' names and ages.

The Defence Budget:

Finance Minister Barend du Plessis has allocated R5,123.3-million to defence for 1986/87. Last year the amount was R4,274.1 indicating a 19.9 percent increase.

This is 4.43 times the amount of the black education budget (R1,157.8-million) and 8.12 times the amount allocated to housing (R650.6-million, of which R311.3-million is for black housing).

The total amount allocated to defence is 13.7 percent of the budget. ARMSCOR [Armaments Development and Production Corporation] received R249-million (in 1985 the figure was R136-million).

The 1985 budget surplus of R323-million will be transferred to the Special Defence Account.

The official defence spending total of R5,446.6-million shows an increase of 27.5 percent. This does not include:

— The police budget of R1,071.2-million (figure for 1985 was R954.7-million).
— The amount spent on defence buildings and property (which falls under the Department of Public Works vote).
— The amount spent on the SWA Territorial Force (which falls under the finance vote).
— Foreign exchange received from the overseas sale of arms which is then channeled into defence spending.
— Defence and police expenditure in the homelands and independent states.
— The amount already in the Special Defence Account.

The budget only represents an estimate of expenditure. Defence expenditure invariably exceeds the defence budget allocation and is supplemented generously by the "mini-budget" late in the financial year.

A recent United Nations report stated that real defence expenditure in South Africa is about 30 to 35 percent more than the official budget. This would bring real total expenditure on Security Forces to about R8,700-million.

Emigration/Immigration (Dept of Statistics):

According to figures released by Central Statistics Services in Pretoria, fewer immigrants are settling in SA, while the number of emigrants is increasing.

Figures for Jan 1985 to Dec 1985 compared with the same period in 1984 show that the number of emigrants increased form 8,550 to 11,401 (33.3 percent).

The number of immigrants decreased from 28,793 to 17,284 (a drop of 40 percent).

Prisoner of Conscience: Khethiwe Mboweni

Khethiwe Mboweni, 28, a field worker for the Environmental and Development Agency [EDA] and a former SRC [Student Representative Council] member at Turfloop University, was detained under Section 28 of the Internal Security Act (the "preventive detention" clause) on October 18 last year. Her detention order expires on June 30 this year.

At present she is in the psychiatric ward of the Johannesburg Hospital after being in solitary confinement for most of her detention.

Mboweni is the mother of two children aged five and ten years, who are currently in Tzaneen. She served in the regional office of AZAPO [Azanian People's Organization]. She had just begun work at EDA when she was detained. This is Mboweni's first period in detention.